In Political Science, we know that what happens outside of our classrooms is as important as what happens within them. Opportunities and professional experiences are critical to our students’ learning and later success. We take that to heart.

The Political Science Department is an active participant in dynamic intellectual and moral debates at Adelphi. We have co-sponsored many events in the last year: a Young Democrats’ and College Republicans’ debate on immigration, a panel “Take the Knee: Acceptable Forms of Protest in the NFL,” a lecture on “The Fight against Partisan Gerrymandering,” a “Teach-In on Tensions with North Korea,” and a “Post-Election Discussion and Analysis.”

The department also facilitates professional development for students. In addition to local internships, our students have the opportunity to intern for a semester in Washington, D.C. or study abroad. One of our colleagues, Prof. Katie Laatikainen, is also co-leading (with Prof. Gupta from the Adelphi Business School) a one-credit study abroad in Finland that many political science majors are taking. The Political Science Department also offers career events customized for our majors. In the last year we have organized an alumni panel on law school, a presentation on the wide-range of career paths for political science majors, a LinkedIn training session, and a job-search seminar led by a recruiter who is an alumnus.

We are passionate about connecting our students to intellectual and moral debates and fostering their professional development.

**Study Abroad and Internship Semesters**

The Political Science faculty strongly encourages students to take advantage of study abroad and internship programs. The Provost offers a scholarship to study abroad for which students can compete. Domestically, the Political Science Department has had great success sending students to The Washington Center for an internship semester.

*Pictured right: Julia Zirillo '20 while studying abroad in Italy*
Political Science Department Awards

Hugh A. Wilson Award for Social and Economic Justice

The Hugh A. Wilson Award recognizes a senior Political Science major for activism in the areas of social and economic justice. The selection criteria are activities that serve the public interest, traditionally vulnerable groups, and social and economic equality.

Past Award Recipient: 2017: Kindeya Chiaro

Award: monetary

Pictured above, Kindeya Chiaro with Professor Levy

W. Grafton Nealley Award for Excellence in Political Science

The department bestows the W. Grafton Nealley Award for excellence in Political Science to its most outstanding senior. A committee of Faculty members evaluates potential award recipients, taking into consideration factors such as grade point average in political science, the number and difficulty of courses taken, and improvement over time.

Past Award Recipient: 2018: Luke Colle
2017: Kindeya Chiaro

Award: monetary and a book

Pictured above, 2018 Award Winners: Luke Colle (left), and Katelyn Corwin (center) with Professor Gray

Robert J. Johnson Prize for Best Political Science Paper

Every year the Political Science Department awards the Johnson Prize for the Best Paper in Political Science written by a graduating senior. The paper must have been submitted in a political science course within the previous three semesters and received a grade of “A.” Students may enter more than one paper.

Past Award Recipient: 2018: Katelyn Corwin
2017: Jacque Condon

Pictured above, Jacqueline Condon with Professor Laatikainen

Congratulations to political science majors who graduated in December 2018, or are expected to graduate May or August 2019, with departmental honors:

Julie Aberasturi, Taylor Klein, Michael Salvatore, Joseph Wales, Antonette White, and Edward Wilkowski
Pi Sigma Alpha is the national Political Science Honor Society, with over 700 chapters at the most leading colleges and universities in the United States. The qualifications for membership at Adelphi’s chapter include: 1) at least four courses (including one course at the 300 level) in political science with a “B-” or better in each, 2) overall Political Science GPA of 3.5 or higher and 3) overall university GPA of at least 3.0. It is not necessary to be a political science major to join. Students who were eligible for induction received an invitation to join in March.

The induction ceremony for Pi Sigma Alpha will take place during the annual Political Science Department’s Graduation and Awards Celebration. The celebration will take place on Monday, May 6th, from 2:30—5:00 P.M. in Campbell Lounge.

**Pi Sigma Alpha 2018 Members**

Julie Aberasturi  
Amanda Bruchhauser  
Ashley Flores  
Emily Ganshaw  
Julia Goodheart  
Caitlyn M. Kelleher  
Taylor Klein  
Angel Mercado  
Michael Parchinsky  
Joseph Wales

**Pi Sigma Alpha 2019 Members**

Panayotis Agelarakis  
Connor Coupe  
Lynoska Garcia  
Frederick Grimshaw  
Alexandra Harris  
Maria Giovanna Jumper  
James Motamed  
Kathleen Montgomery  
Gabriela Murillo  
Dominic Paolo  
Louis J. Pasquale  
Taiere Timitimi  
Edward Wilkowski  
Julia Zirillo

*Professor Gray with 2018 Pi Sigma Alpha Members*
Professor Regina S. Axelrod was Chair and Discussant at the panel "The Future of Nuclear Energy," and Chair of the roundtable: “Innovative Teaching of International Environmental Governance and Policy," at the International Studies Association (ISA) conference in San Francisco on April 4th, 2018. She has also spent the year continuing her research on problems of global nuclear energy and completed the 5th revision with her book with Stacy D. VanDeveer, *The Global Environment: Law, Institutions and Policy*, with an anticipated fall publication date. Prof. Axelrod’s recent course offerings include: Introduction to Politics, Environment and Politics, Hate and Conflict, and the Seminar in Public Policy.

Professor Maggie Gray continues her research on New York State farmworkers and her latest publication is “Food and Labor,” a chapter in *Twenty Lessons in Food and Agriculture*, edited by Maki Hatanaka and Jason Konefal for Oxford University Press (2018). Prof. Gray was honored to be named an Adelphi Teaching Fellow for the 2017-2018 academic year and to immerse herself in pedagogical theory and instructional techniques. She also received a 2018 Summer Professional Development Grant to focus on academic writing practices. In November 2018, she gave a keynote address at a conference titled “Pastures of Plenty? Food, Justice and Labor in the Hudson Valley,” hosted by Mohonk Consultations at the Mohonk Mountain House. In January-March 2019, she spoke on a farmworker panel at the Museum of Food and Drink, SUNY New Paltz, LIU Post, and the Yonkers Public Library. She also gave a talk on dairy workers in February 2019 at Montclair State University. She presented on her research at the University of Toronto in March 2019, including a cooking demonstration based on recipes by NYS farmworkers. Prof. Gray serves as Secretary of the Adelphi AAUP faculty union and in the summer of 2018 she volunteered with the New Sanctuary Coalition to help asylum seekers complete and submit their applications. Prof. Gray’s most recent course offerings include: Introduction to the American Political System, Race and Politics, and Research Design and Methods. She will offer “Food Politics” in the fall of 2019.
Professor Katie Laatikainen presented a paper and participated in a roundtable at the International Studies Association (ISA) conference in San Francisco in April 2018. At that conference, she was elected to serve on the International Organization Executive Committee of the ISA for 2018-2020. In spring 2018, she was appointed to the Advisory Board of the United Nations University Institute for Comparative Regional Studies (UNU-CRIS) in Bruges, Belgium for a three-year term. She has co-authored (with Martin Palous) a research paper, “Contested Ground: The Campaign to Enhance the Status of the European Union in the UN General Assembly,” published by the Globus Research program. She also co-authored a book chapter with Knud Erik Jørgensen, “The Political Impact of the EU’s Interaction with International Institutions” which will be published in the Research Handbook on the European Union’s Engagement with International Organizations, edited by Ramses A. Wessel & Jed Odermatt and published by Edward Elgar Publishers. She and Professor Gupta (Adelphi’s School of Business) designed the first International Studies Study Abroad course which will travel to Finland in May 2019. She has helped complete a partnership with the University of Tampere in Finland which will enable student exchange for Political Science, International Studies, and Business majors between the two universities from 2019. Prof. Laatikainen’s recent political science courses include: Theories and Practices of International Relations, National Model United Nations, and European Politics.

Professor Traci Levy attended the 18th Annual Faculty Institute at Barnard College in June 2018 with Prof. Gray. Prof. Levy continued her pedagogical training in the Reacting to the Past approach that uses role-playing games based on key historical moments and primary texts. As part of Adelphi’s diversity initiative, she also continued her role co-facilitating the “Title IX and Gender Bias” workshops with Adelphi’s Title IX Coordinator, Renaire Frierson, J.D. Together, they run workshops for Adelphi faculty, staff, and administrators as well as local middle and high school personnel. Additionally, Prof. Levy presented at a February 2019 panel at Mount Holyoke College on Mara Benjamin’s book The Obligated Self: Maternal Subjectivity and Jewish Thought. On March 1st, Prof. Levy presented her article manuscript, “Caresharing and Care-Pooling: Lessons from Disabled Parents and Young Careers,” co-authored with Professor Deborah Little (Associate Professor, Sociology), at the Five College Women’s Studies Research Center’s works-in-progress seminar. Prof. Levy’s recent political science courses include: Introduction to Politics; Modern Political Theory; and Family and Sexuality in Political Theory, and Seminar in Justice and Social Policy.
Faculty Highlights

Professor Danielle Zach published online “‘It was Networking, All Networking’: The Irish Republican Movement’s Survival in Cold War America,” Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies, in January 2019. Along with Thomas G. Weiss, she also recently published “The UN’s Journey through International Affairs: Almost 75 Years Old, or Young?” International Affairs, April 2018 Virtual Issue. Prof. Zach traveled to Germany last fall for a chapter contributors' conference for a forthcoming edited volume on diaspora organizations in international affairs. She was co-chair of the Critical Perspectives on Human Rights Conference at The City College, CUNY, which brought together in New York City almost one-hundred scholars from nearly twenty countries to discuss pressing twenty-first century human rights challenges.

Adjunct Faculty Bios

Gary Greaves recently began teaching at Adelphi and brings lots of classroom experience from teaching at the Stella and Charles Guttman Community College, part of the City University of New York. Prof. Greaves holds an undergraduate degree in Sociology (with a minor in History), and a graduate degree in Political Science from Brooklyn College of the City University of New York. Before entering teaching, Prof. Greaves worked as an Audit Analyst at New York City’s Office of Management and Budget, a Legal Assistant at the Law Office of Anthony W. Agard, a Project Coordinator with the Rockaway Development and Revitalization Corporation, and as a Project Manager with the New York City Department of Small Business Services. Prof. Greaves teaches Introduction to the American Political System at Adelphi.

Celeste Kaufman has been with the Department of Political Science for 15 years. She holds a Bachelor of Arts with honors in Economics and a Juris Doctor degree as well as a Master of Laws in International Law. Prof. Kaufman teaches the pre-law curriculum: Individual Rights in the Constitution, American System of Criminal Justice, Constitutional Law: Government Powers, Supreme Court as a Political Institution, and Law and the Legal Process. This semester she is teaching Immigration Law, a new course offering for the department. In previous years, she has been the keynote speaker on Constitution Day. Prof. Kaufman has been in private practice for more than 35 years where she handles both civil and criminal matters.

Jason Rose comes to Adelphi after teaching at Stony Brook University for seven years where he was the recipient of the Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching Award in Political Science. He completed his undergraduate work at Stony Brook University and completed graduate course work at NYU. He has worked in the U.S. House of Representatives as a committee research staffer, has 20 years of experience working on congressional and state campaigns, and has conducted field research in Iran. Prof. Rose has taught Introduction to the American Political System and International Political Economy at Adelphi.
National Model United Nations Conference

From April 14-18, 2019, fourteen AU students will represent Lithuania at the National Model United Nations (NMUN) conference in New York. They will join more than 4000 students from more than 40 countries that travel to the United Nations (UN) and New York for four intensive days of negotiations on a variety of global issues. The conference involves a visit to the Lithuanian Mission to the UN as well as final sessions at the United Nations General Assembly Hall.

Did you know….that the NMUN course is not the only way for students to see the United Nations? AU Political Science faculty generally invite and sponsor political science and international studies students on a guided tour of the United Nations annually.

Student Groups Debate Immigration

By: Louis J. Pasquale '20

On Wednesday, November 14, 2018, the College Republicans and College Democrats held a well-attended debate on campus. They discussed the contentious issue of immigration. Each side was allotted a fixed period of time to present their arguments. After their time expired, the other side was allowed to respond. This was followed by questions from the audience. One of the many highlights of this debate was a rather intense discussion on the issue of a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants. The College Democrats vehemently asserted that our immigration laws need to be revised to reflect our values and roots as a nation built by immigrants. On the contrary, the College Republicans appeared to be divided on the issue, as some of them agreed with the idea of a path to citizenship, while others maintained that our immigration laws need to be tightened.

Despite the marked disagreement between the two organizations regarding immigration, this event can be seen as a success: each group made clear their stance on the issues in a diplomatic manner, while also being receptive to the input of the audience.
As a young woman from a small town in Connecticut, Sarah Cinquemani knew that she did not wish to attend a large university, such as UConn. She wanted to attend a smaller institution that provided access to her professors. As an Environmental Science and Political Science double major, Sarah was happy to be able to form a bond with the faculty here at Adelphi University. While at Adelphi, Sarah was quite active in both the academic and social realms. She played an active role in the Student Government Association, serving as vice president of her graduating class her first three years and the president her final year. Moreover, Sarah was a Resident Assistant, a Writing Center tutor, and a member of Omicron Delta Kappa, the Leadership Honor Society here at Adelphi. The Political Science Department also sent her as a delegate to a prestigious conference at the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) where she first learned the importance of networking. As the only Adelphi representative at the SAA conference, Sarah acquired networking skills, such as meeting, talking and connecting with new groups of people, which she would later use in her professional life as an attorney. In addition to honing skills, Sarah was afforded the opportunity to listen to different perspectives on international relations and engage with those of opposing views from her own.

Sarah also found her internships at both Senator Gillibrand’s office and the Vinci Group, a consulting firm in her home state, to be effective in preparing her for entering the workforce. While interning at Sen. Gillibrand’s office, Sarah had to act as the eyes and ears for the senator by reading the local newspapers’ feedback on her political efforts. Then, the summer before attending Pace’s Elisabeth Haub School of Law, Sarah worked at the Vinci Group on local campaigns. Ultimately, she found these experiences to be a reminder to stay up to date on current events, to be a more proactive citizen herself, and also to encourage others to as well.

As a child, Sarah loved the outdoors and became fascinated with environmentalism. In fact, her spark for preserving the environment has only grown bigger. She attended and recently graduated from the Elisabeth Haub School of Law at Pace University with a certificate in Environmental Law. Since she knew from a young age that she wanted to pursue a career dedicated to the conservation of the environment, her choice of law and its particular certificate was made easy. In fact, her advice for law school hopefuls is to find a particular area of interest and then to search for law schools that are well known for that particular program.

Due to Pace’s extensive environmental law program, Sarah was afforded opportunities to study her field of interests, and pursue internships related to environmental law, along with other avenues. For instance, Sarah took part in Pace’s law team that allowed her to not only garner experience, but also travel while in law school. Furthermore, she was the President of the Student Bar Association at Pace. Towards the end of our interview, Sarah detailed one of her most cherished experiences as a student attorney where she worked on a case, appeared before the Supreme Court of New York to advocate for reopening a park in Brooklyn, educated the public and networked with other practices. Since graduating from law school, Sarah has passed the New York State bar exam. Sarah is an Excelsior Fellow at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation with an office in Albany. Sarah is also currently working to protect New York State’s drinking water. The Political Science Department is very proud of her accomplishments!
My first year at Adelphi University was perhaps my most eventful year to date. As a small town girl from Texas, the idea of moving near a world-renowned, gigantic city like New York completely terrified me. I didn’t know what to expect for myself educationally or personally when I packed up my entire life and made the 30-hour drive to Garden City.

On campus, I threw myself into any organization I could. In my first year on campus, I grew a love for working with my residence halls. I joined the Resident Student Association and became an active member in my own hall council. Being a member of such an active organization has allowed me to play a small part in student leadership at the university.

I vowed to grasp every special opportunity Adelphi’s location afforded me. As a lover of late night comedy and politics, I took it upon myself to attend as many tapings as I could of my favorite shows. Since my time here, I have attended 21 episodes of Saturday Night Live, 4 tapings of Seth Meyers, one Jimmy Fallon show, and one Stephen Colbert episode. It’s safe to say that my love for comedy has not only grown, but it has been deeply imbedded into who I am as an individual. My interest after college lies within the world of late night political satire. It is my wildest dream to write for a comedy show that has its roots in the political sphere. Apart from gallivanting around 30 Rockefeller Plaza, I found myself at many Broadway shows, wandering around Central Park, and taking joyrides on the Staten Island ferry. I did everything in my power to take advantage of the glorious city at my disposal. New York City inspires me every time I step off the train onto 7th Avenue. The sights, the smells, and the glorious people make this melting pot a place I love to call my new home.

Alongside my enveloping passion for comedy is my devotion to activism. This past year, I found out exactly who I am in my activism when I came to a safe, open environment. Throughout the school year and into the summer, I attended several actions with organizations including, Decolonize This Place, Black Lives Matter, Center for Popular Democracy, March for Our Lives, and Women’s March. Fighting for human rights has always been at the core of my existence, but I never knew how much social justice would impact my life until I was fully engulfed within the community. Back in Texas, I never felt compelled to be active in local Politics. These protests, rallies, marches, and civil disobedience actions I attended in New York shaped the course of my first year experience at Adelphi. I established my political beliefs, my close friendships, and my love for political science as a whole.
Local Internship: Make the Road NY

By: Gabriela Murillo ’20

The summer of 2018 I had the pleasure to work alongside Make the Road NY and take part in the detention defense project helping immigrant families across the state. During my internship, I worked with the lead organizer of MRNY, Luba Cortes, and conducted and attended several events, workshops, actions, press conferences and rallies to raise awareness for the ongoing immigrant crises. Make the Road NY has been working on immigrant rights since its creation and has also supported many laws that have made the quality of life of immigrants in NY better. The organization partnered with several other NGO’s such as Legal Aid, Bronx Defenders, The New York Immigrant Family Unity Project (NYIFUP) to provide legal aid and the NGO Aliadx to help provide diapers, food, lightly worn clothes, and other necessities.

My work at MRNY was mainly based on immigrant defense. I would follow-up with affected members of the immigrant community who had loved ones that were detained and were in the process of deportation. The help of the legal team at MRNY facilitated this tedious process. Specifically, I answered urgent phone calls from those seeking help and would have to get a series of information from them regarding their loved one’s credentials. If a customer needed help locating their loved one, I would have to track them down using the ICE locator or the hotline. After getting down all the important information, I followed up with the legal team to see if the detainee qualified, for NYIFUP for free legal representation in court. This process was extremely important and time-sensitive because many of these cases were post-order, meaning that the detainee already had a previous order of deportation and were weeks away from getting deported unless they had a good lawyer and case to defend. Many of these cases required one-on-one meetings with the relative or loved one that had someone detained and, in many cases, I accompanied them to attorney’s that MRNY works with in order to translate and represent the organization. I successfully was involved with a series of cases that released those who were detained and at risk of being deported.

One of the greatest achievements I was involved in at MRNY were the popular cases of Pablo Villavicencio, and Margarito and Concepcion Silvahat that were broadcasted nationwide. Pablo Villavicencio was delivering pizza to a military base in Fort Hamilton when he was asked for ID and later arrested and detained. The similar case of Margarito and Concepcion Silva also received a lot of publicity when these two grandparents went to visit their son-in-law at the Fort Drum military base on the 4th of July and were also arrested and detained for the same reasons. I had the absolute pleasure of working alongside MRNY and other partnering organizations to fight these cases and successfully work towards getting all three released from prison and stop the deportation process.

My time at MRNY was an amazing experience that allowed me to participate in many unforgettable events such as, press-conferences, rallies, a workshop that received publicity on TV and news sites, and an event to help raise awareness of family separation at the 2018 Video Music Awards in partnership with famous rapper Logic and his team. Most importantly, MRNY helped me be more aware of the ongoing immigrant crisis and allowed me to get firsthand experience on what truly happens behind the scenes at these detention prisons and get one-to-one experience with those who are affected by immigration policies. Lastly, I am grateful for the impact I was able to make on some people while working to help get their loved ones released and the involvement I had in making a stronger immigrant community.
Eric Priest: D.C. Internship

The Washington Center Experience

By: Eric Priest '19

I attended the Washington Center from January 24 to May 4, 2018 and interned with Representative Adam Kinzinger’s congressional office. He represents Illinois’ 16th district, is a member of the Republican Party, former member of the Air Force, and currently a major in the Air National Guard.

The Washington Center (TWC) has had a tremendous impact on jumpstarting my professional career as well as improving my skills and myself as a person. Before this semester I didn’t think I’d be able to work in a congressional office in D.C away from my friends and family but TWC made that possible. I was able to get a taste of what it is like on the inside of the political stream where I was able to live it as opposed to just reading about it. This semester has changed my mindset by molding me into a professional that’s eager to join the workforce and work to better our society. By working for a congressman I have a new understanding about the inner workings of the office and how legislation is created and how many organizations are in contact with different offices. It has been an eye-opening experience that has made me a more responsible and communicative person by being engaged and having important responsibilities.

From my internship, I gained networking and communication skills, and strengthened my knowledge on policy subjects, especially in foreign affairs. Early on, I worked on projects for the foreign affairs staffer and scribed hearings for him and others in the office. This correlated well with my evening class on U.S. foreign policy because I was able to use information learned in class in my internship and vice versa. By conducting this research I realized I wanted to do something similar to being a staffer back home and possibly come back to Washington D.C. in the future.

Internship Experience, Local Assemblyman

By: Taylor Klein '19

The internship experience with my local assemblyman, Ed Ra, educated me about local issues in our community. I became passionate about listening to the wants and needs of constituents who live in the same community as I do. Meeting with organizations and individuals, both in person and on the phone, is always a pleasant experience. I have had the pleasure of assisting in organizing and attending local events such as the Assemblyman’s Women of Distinction and Veterans’ Barbecue. Seeing the proud faces of those being honored was rewarding. I am so thankful that I was able to have this internship experience. I thank Adelphi for helping me secure this position.
Eric Alexander ('92) is the founder and executive director of L.I. Vision, a firm that works with local leaders, NGOs, development companies and the private sector to revitalize Long Island downtown cities and villages.

Heena Arora ('14) is Assistant District Attorney for King’s County.

Kindeya Chiaro ('17) works as an NYC Campaigns Organizer for the Alliance for Quality Education.

Gustavo Escobar ('02) is on the faculty at PS 127 in Queens, where he teaches special education.

TaLona Holbert ('13) is an Associate Attorney at Stroock & Stroock & Lavan. She was also a 2018 recipient of Adelphi’s prestigious “10 Under 10 Young Alumni Recognition Award!”

Brian Hoyle ('10) works as a contractor for the Department of Homeland Security in Washington, D.C. He was promoted to Lead Cybersecurity Analyst Trainer for another agency within DHS. Brian also owns The Fintel Group, a financial advisory firm. Brian and his wife, Ashley, welcomed their first child, a son, in March 2018.

Christian Fundo ('07) is Vice President and Assistant General Counsel at JPMorgan Chase & Co. He and his wife, Ariona, welcomed their first child, a daughter, in 2018.

Edwin Maldonado ('13) is an Assistant District Attorney for Nassau County.

Boris Manakhimov ('11) was a double major in political science and economics. He recruits research scientists and engineers at Dataminr.

Svetla Marinova ('10) is FinTech Manager at Grant Thornton. Svetla was in the political-science track of the International Studies major while at Adelphi. She was a 2018 recipient of Adelphi’s prestigious “10 Under 10 Young Alumni Recognition Award!”

Joe Orlando ('16) is the District Office Director for a New York State Assemblyman in Westchester.

Evan Sarris ('06) is Manager for Federal Government Affairs for a trade association called the National Association of Chain Drug Stores. He works with members of congress to insure people have access to quality, affordable health care.

Andrew Zang ('09) works as Assistant Director at Savills Studley, a commercial real estate firm. Andrew was recently recognized as a “30 Under 30: Top Leasing and Sales Professionals” by Commercial Observer.