Department of Political Science

The MIT Political Science Department remains one of the country’s leading departments. It continues to attract top-quality graduate students and junior faculty and serves as the home of several important educational and research activities.

Over the last five years, the Political Science Department has experienced a very exciting (and at times intense) process of rebuilding. The goal has been to make the department one of the country’s top political science departments and, in the process, help transform the discipline by showing that analytical and theoretical rigor is compatible with policy relevance and that the field of political science can make significant contributions toward solving the world’s great challenges while also advancing the frontiers of knowledge. To achieve these goals, we built on existing strengths within the department, developed stronger ties to other departments and research initiatives at MIT, and invested new resources into the department, both in the short and medium term. Our rise in the rankings and success in recruiting new PhD students indicate that we are well on the way to achieving our goals.

This past year, the department has focused on:

- Maintaining and strengthening the department’s finances so that we can support a healthy (and competitive) PhD program and hire to fill all open faculty slots.
- Reviewing and upgrading our graduate and undergraduate programs so that we offer our students the very best possible education in politics, policy, and the underlying methods required to understand and evaluate competing political positions/policy options.
- Increasing the quantity and quality of scholarly activities occurring within and sponsored by the department in order to enhance both our visibility (within MIT, the discipline, and the world) and our intellectual community.
- Fostering the norms and culture of the department so that we can maintain a rich and nurturing intellectual community.
- Building stronger ties to other departments and research centers at MIT by both playing a greater role in various policy-related debates on campus and promoting collaborative projects and joint courses with faculty from other units at the Institute. Strengthening our ties and identification with MIT is key to our return to prominence.

Although we still have much work to do, we have made significant progress on each of these tasks.

Fundraising

We must continue to make progress on raising funds for our graduate program in order to reach our goal of admitting 13–15 students every year. Although permanent fellowship funds from external donors (Andronico Luksic, Jon Borschow, Nike Inc.) have gone a long way toward establishing three endowed graduate fellowships, we still have a major gap. We are working hard to close this gap.
Faculty Searches

We invited three candidates for interviews after a junior faculty search for an American politics professor. We made two job offers, but neither resulted in a hire.

Intellectual Commons

We continue to support a series of research-related activities, including the Political Experiments Research Lab (PERL), the American Politics Seminar and Workshop Series, the Security Studies Workshop, and the Latin Americanists Working Group, that have all created a sense of intellectual energy and excitement within the department. Professor Charles Stewart hosted a major daylong conference, “New Research on Election Administration and Reform.” Also, in partnership with MIT’s Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences and the Beyond Conflict nongovernmental organization, faculty and graduate student members from our department participated in the “New Perspectives on Social Conflict” conference. Political science faculty members (Chappell Lawson, Michael Piore, Richard Samuels, Suzanne Berger, and Ben Schneider) continue to play a major role in the MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives (MISTI) program.

In short, we are making progress on all of the key issues facing the department, issues we need to address if we are to meet our goals of becoming one of the country’s top five departments and reinventing the discipline.

Educational Initiatives

The department’s core mission is education, starting on the MIT campus and extending into the wider world. Fulfillment of that mission is centered on the undergraduate and graduate programs, both of which have established equilibria following the reforms of several years ago.

We are pleased to report that political methodology instruction in our graduate program has been maintained and enhanced despite the departure of Associate Professor Jens Hainmueller to Stanford University in January 2014. Assistant Professor In Song Kim joined the department in fall 2014 and now teaches several classes in quantitative political methods. In addition, Assistant Professor Regina Bateson offers a class in qualitative political methodology, and Professor Evan Lieberman plans to offer a graduate seminar in “mixed methods” (the combination of qualitative and quantitative methods).

In addition to its own curriculum, the department is home to a number of internship and other “hands-on” experiences, mostly for undergraduates. These activities allow science and engineering students to engage with policymakers at home and with laboratories and industries abroad.

Along with attracting qualified underrepresented minority candidates to the department through the regular search process, we have initiated a unique race and diversity predoctoral fellowship. For AY2016, we made offers to two Diversity Dissertation Fellowship candidates, Allison Harris and Amber Spry. Harris, a PhD candidate at
the University of Chicago, did not accept, choosing to enroll at Pennsylvania State University instead. Spry, a PhD candidate at Columbia University, did accept and will begin her fellowship in fall 2015.

Although MISTI is formally affiliated with the Center for International Studies (CIS), almost all of the faculty directors of the country programs are from the Department of Political Science, as is the director of MISTI, Professor Lawson. In addition to being an important part of the education of hundreds of MIT students each year, MISTI serves as a model of international education among other colleges and universities with a large number of students in science and engineering.

During AY2015, faculty developed new subjects aimed at increasing our undergraduate enrollments. This includes 17.569 Russia’s Foreign Policy: Toward the Post-Soviet States and Beyond, which had previously been offered as a special topics class and is now a permanent research seminar listing. To serve a broader cohort of MISTI students and fill a demand for a general undergraduate course on the subject, Professor Samuels and Professors Taylor Fravel and Vipin Narang created and taught 17.53 Rise of Asia in spring 2015. One of our newest faculty members, Professor Richard Nielsen, created 17.41 Introduction to International Relations to fill a need for an introductory international relations course. For the first time as a formal class, Professor Berger taught 17.198 Current Topics in Comparative Political Economy. This course had traditionally been taught as a reading seminar for students preparing for exams in political economy. Professor Andrea Campbell taught 17.320 Social Policy for the first time, providing the initial offering of a graduate course on the topic. Professors Nielsen and Fotini Christia created and taught 17.568 Comparative Politics and International Relations of the Middle East in spring 2015 to reintroduce study on the Middle East. A similar class had been taught, but not since 2011. The department is very pleased to be able to provide these new courses in an effort to strengthen our curriculum and increase undergraduate enrollments.

The MIT Washington Summer Internship Program continues to allow MIT’s technically oriented students to experience how institutions vital to their later success operate. It also provides the federal government and other policymakers early access to the best young scientists and engineers in America. Sixteen undergraduates, representing four of the Institute’s five schools, are participating in summer 2015. They are working at the American Public Health Association, the Congressional Research Service, the Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Federal Reserve, the Government Accountability Office, Gryphon Scientific, the General Services Administration, the Institute of Medicine, the World Bank Group, and the MIT Washington, DC, Office.

**Student Recruitment, Placement, and Enrollment**

The department reviewed 397 applications for the PhD program, up from 376 in 2014. In 2014, in response to a larger than anticipated yield in 2013, we had limited the number of admitted applicants to 26, and we fell below our targeted yield when only eight accepted our offer. This year we increased the number of admits to 32 and successfully focused on our target of 12 students in the cohort. Thirteen admitted applicants accepted our
offer, including eight women. Of these 13 applicants, two women are deferring to 2016, resulting in an incoming class of 11.

Our graduating doctoral students continue to garner rewarding and prestigious appointments in higher education and industry. This year our PhD graduates secured faculty appointments at Oxford University, Yale-NUS College in Singapore, Dartmouth College, the University of Memphis, and the University of California, San Diego, along with postdoctoral fellowships at Brown University and Dartmouth.

In AY2015, our undergraduate enrollment was 1,019, a bit larger than the previous year (920); however, the number of undergraduate political science majors was slightly lower this year. Enrollments in our concentration and our three minors stayed about the same. We had 13 majors, 93 concentrators, and 55 minors overall (21 in political science, 10 in public policy, and 24 in applied international studies).

Faculty and Promotions
We are delighted that Teppei Yamamoto was promoted to associate professor without tenure this year.

Awards and Grants
Notable awards, grants, recognitions, and important professional responsibilities given to faculty members during AY2015 include the following.

Professor Adam Berinsky received a three-year extension for his National Science Foundation (NSF) grant, “Collaborative Research: The American Mass Public in the Early Cold War Years” (with Eric Schickler and Jasjeet Sekhon). Professor Berinsky is an editor for the Chicago Studies in American Politics series and serves as reviewer for 15 different publishers.

Professor Campbell served as associate editor of political science for the Journal of Health and Politics, as senior editor for Oxford Research Reviews in Politics, as a board member for the Oxford University Press Studies in Postwar American Political Development series, and as a reviewer for publications such as the American Journal of Political Science and the American Political Science Review.

Professor Devin Caughey received the 2014 Walter Dean Burnham Award from the American Political Science Association for the best dissertation in the field of politics and history.

Professor Nazli Choucri was awarded a two-year grant from the MIT and Masdar Institute Cooperative Program. Her five-year grant as principal investigator (PI) for “Explorations in Cyber International Relations,” an MIT-Harvard Minerva project sponsored by the US Department of Defense, was extended for one year.

Professor Christia was among the inaugural class to be awarded an Andrew Carnegie Fellowship. She was also awarded a two-year extension from the Army Research Office.
Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative for her “Evolution of Cultural Norms and Dynamics of Socio-Political Change” grant.

Professor Fravel is a co-PI with Professor Samuels on a new grant from the MIT-Japan East Asian Initiative.

Professor Frank Gavin received a grant, “Towards a New Approach to the Advanced Study of Security and International Affairs” (co-organized with James Steinberg), funded by the Carnegie Corporation of New York and the Smith-Richardson Foundation.

Professor Daniel Hidalgo was awarded an Experiments in Governance and Politics Reanting Initiative grant for “Accountability and Incumbent Performance in the Brazilian Northeast” (with Taylor Boas).

Professor Lieberman received the 2014 David Collier Mid-Career Achievement Award from the Qualitative and Mixed-Method Section of the American Political Science Association. He also received $40,000 in funding from the Center for Health and Wellbeing at Princeton University.

Professor Ken Oye is the PI for an NSF Synthetic Biology Engineering Research Center grant.

Professor Barry Posen led the Security Studies Program in securing an additional $285,000 grant from the Frank Stanton Foundation.

Professor Samuels was honored with the Einstein Fellowship from the Free University of Berlin and served as a distinguished speaker for the Northeast Asia Council of the Association of Asian Studies and for the Sandia National Laboratory’s National Security Speakers Series. He was co-PI for a $250,000 grant from the government of Japan and PI for a $5 million government of Japan chair for modern and contemporary Japanese politics and diplomacy.

Professor Schneider was awarded the Hanse Wissenschaft Kolleg residential fellowship for AY2015.

Professor Kathleen Thelen was honored as a fellow at the Hanse-Wissenschaftskolleg Institute for Advanced Study. Also, she was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and served as a visiting professor in the spring at Di Tella University in Buenos Aires.

Professor Lily Tsai was awarded a James A. and Ruth Levitan Prize for Research from the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (SHASS). In addition, she received grants from the World Bank and the International Growth Centre.

Professor Christopher Warshaw was awarded a SHASS Research Opportunity Grant to study representation in the United States Senate between 1960 and 2010 and a grant from MIT’s J.H. and E.V. Wade Fund to study public opinion on climate change.
Faculty Leaves, Departures, and Visitors

Professors Schneider, Thelen, Hidalgo, Roger Petersen, and Lucas Stanczyk were on leave for the entire academic year. Professors Caughey and David Singer were on leave during the fall semester.

Faculty Research and Publications

The faculty of the Department of Political Science are prolific in their publication activity across a variety of topics. The faculty’s research is funded through a combination of outside grants and internal Institute funds. The following is a representative sampling of faculty publications over the past year.

Professor Bateson presented her research at many seminars and colloquia, including presentations at the Centre de Recherches Internationales in Paris, the Kellogg Institute, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económica in Mexico City, the Latin American Studies Association International Congress in Puerto Rico, and the American Political Science Association’s annual meeting in Washington, DC.

Professor Berger presented her research at academic and industry venues around the world, including the annual Rencontres Economiques meeting in Aix-en-Provence, the Mitsui lecture series in Tokyo, and the Industry Studies Association in Kansas City. She was also a discussant in the J. Stiglitz Seminar in Inequality in Washington, DC.

Professor Berinsky co-published “Red Scare? Revisiting Joe McCarthy’s Influence on 1950s Elections Expectations” (with Gabriel Lenz) in Public Opinion Quarterly and co-authored “An Empirical Justification for the Use of Draft Lottery Numbers as a Random Treatment in Political Science Research” (with Sara Chatfield, forthcoming in Political Analysis). He presented his research at a number of meetings of academic and industrial organizations, including the annual meetings of the Society for Political Methodology and the Western Political Science Association.

Professor Campbell published the book Trapped in America’s Safety Net: One Family’s Struggle and toured to discussed her work with numerous news and academic groups such as the Harvard Magazine Review, Time magazine, and the Washington Post. She also published five articles, including “Tax Attitudes in the Obama Era” (Tax Law Review), “Reassessing the Conventional Wisdom: Entitlements from the Inside” (The Forum), and “The Durability of Pierson’s Theory about the Durability of the Welfare State” (PS: Political Science & Politics). In addition, she authored three and co-authored two book chapters, including “Constituencies and Public Opinion” (with Michael W. Sances) in the Oxford Handbook of Social Policy. Along with her book seminars, she presented additional research at six difference conferences and meetings such as the University Seminar on Women and Society at Columbia University and the annual conference of the Midwest Political Science Association.

Professor Caughey authored “Representation without Parties: Reconsidering the One-Party South” and co-authored eight additional articles, manuscripts, and working papers, including “The Policy Effects of the Partisan Composition of State Government” (with Professor Warshaw and Yiqing Xu) and “Dynamic Estimation of Latent Opinion
Using a Hierarchical Group-Level IRT Model” (with Professor Warshaw). He presented his research at numerous venues, including the American Political Science Association’s annual meeting; the Conference on State Political Institutions and the Executive Branch in Washington, DC; and four additional seminars and colloquia, including events at Boston University, Harvard University, and the University of Georgia.

Professor Choucri co-authored “The Evolution of Network Based Security Norms: An Analytical Narrative” (with Atin Basuchoudhary) in Information, Reuse, and Integration (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers). She was a speaker at the Boston Area Model United Nations Conference and MIT Tech Day and gave talks to the French Consulate of Boston, the Japan Mitsui Inter-Business Research Institute during its visit to MIT, and the American Political Science Association.

Professor Christia’s research has resulted in extensive publications, reports, seminars, and colloquia. In addition to publications, consulting roles, and presentations across the United States (e.g., Harvard, Yale, the World Bank), two highlights are her meeting with Massachusetts senator Elizabeth Warren to discuss US policy in the Middle East and her meeting with the International Rescue Committee’s Advisory Group on Community Driven Development. Along with a number of papers under review, she authored “Non-kinetic Methods to Engage Threat Networks: Evidence from Afghanistan and Yemen,” a memorandum prepared for the Royal Military College of Canada.

Professor Fravel presented his research at many venues, including the Free University of Berlin, George Washington University, SIPRI Stockholm, and the 5th Xiangshan Forum in Beijing. As an expert in his field, he briefed General Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and spoke at an informal dinner with secretary of defense Ash Carter. He published three book chapters, including “Things Fall Apart: Maritime Disputes and China’s Regional Diplomacy” in China’s Challenges: The Road Ahead, and co-authored the report Conflict and Cooperation in the Asia-Pacific Region: A Strategic Net Assessment.


Professor Hidalgo presented “Can Politicians Police Themselves? Natural Experimental Evidence from Brazil’s Audit Courts” at the University of California, Berkeley, and the University of Chicago’s Harris School of Political Economy and “Endogenous State Weakness: Paramilitaries and Electoral Politics in Rio de Janeiro” at the Florida State Political Science Workshop. He published “Voter Buying: Shaping the Electorate through Clientelism” (with Simeon Nichter) in the American Journal of Political Science.
Professor Kim authored “On the Use of Linear Fixed Effects Regression Estimators for Causal Inference” and “Voting, Speechmaking, and the Dimensions of Conflict in the US Senate,” both under review. He presented research at several different venues, including the Asian Political Methodology Conference in Taiwan, the Universidad del Desarrollo in Chile, and Harvard University.

Professor Lawson presented “The Department of Homeland Security and the National Security Mission” to students in the senior manager course in national security leadership at George Washington University and “Mexico and the Drug War” to Seminar XXI participants in Washington, DC.

Professor Lieberman published “Does Information Lead to More Active Citizenship? Evidence from an Education Intervention in Rural Kenya” (with Daniel Posner and Professor Tsai) in World Development. He presented “Do Citizens Reward Good Service? Voter Responses to Basic Service Provision in South Africa” at Harvard University. He also presented his work at the University of Gothenburg in Sweden and to MIT’s Poverty, Violence, and Development Working Group.

Professor Narang published “Nuclear Strategies of Emerging Nuclear Powers: North Korea and Iran” in The Washington Quarterly and authored “India’s Nuclear Weapons Policy” in Engaging the World: India’s Foreign Policy since 1947 (with Sumit Ganguly, forthcoming). He spoke on topics such as nuclear strategy in the modern era, nuclear proliferation strategies, and consolidating India’s nuclear posture at a number of venues, including the Stimson Center in Washington, DC; the Belfer Center at Harvard University; and the Centre for Policy Research in New Delhi.

Professor Nielsen authored “Case Selection via Matching” and co-published “Computer Assisted Text Analysis for Comparative Politics” in Political Analysis. His work “Ethics for Experimental Manipulation of Religion” was accepted as part of an edited volume in the Routledge Experiments in Political Science series. Professor Nielsen shared his research at seminars at MIT, Stanford, and the Bush School at Texas A&M, as well as the 18th Annual Senior Congressional and Executive Office Branch Seminar hosted by MIT’s Security Studies Program.

Professor Melissa Nobles published “Revisiting the ‘Membership Theory of Apologies’: Apology Politics in Australia and Canada” (with Mihaela Mihai and Mathias Thaler) in On the Uses and Abuses of Political Apologies.

Professor Oye co-authored seven different articles, including “Regulate Home Brew Opiates” in Nature and “On Regulating Gene Drives” in Science. He presented his work around the world to many different international groups as an expert in his field. Three examples of these presentations include “On Regulating Gene Drives: A New Technology for Engineering Populations in the Wild” at the United Nations Biological Weapons Convention in Geneva; “Adaptive Risk Management in Biotechnology: Applications to Synthetic Biology and Pharmaceuticals” at the Public Symposium on Science, Technology and Innovation Governance at the University of Tokyo; and “How
Professor Petersen authored “Guilt, Shame, Balts, Jews” in *Confronting Memories of World War II: European and Asian Legacies* and “Western Interventions and Occupations as Threatened Orders,” written for the Collaborative Research Centre 923 Project on Threatened Orders at Tubingen University. He shared his research at the Identity, Sovereignty, and Global Politics in the Building of Baghdad conference at Harvard University and the International Conference on Citizenship Culture in Bogotá.

Professor Posen published “Just Say No: America Should Avoid These Wars” in *The National Interest Online*. He also presented his research at 23 different seminars, book talks, and council and committee meetings, including events at the Egmont Institute in Brussels, the Institute for Strategic Research in Paris, George Washington University, the Brookings Institution, and West Point.

Professor Samuels updated “Japan’s Nuclear Hedge: Beyond ‘Allergy’ and ‘Breakout,’” a 2013 book chapter (with James Schoff), and published “Future Submarine Cost Assurance Analyses: Task One Final Report” (with Paul DeLuca and Eric Heginbotham) for the Rand National Security Research Division. He gave 19 different lectures on his new book and research at venues across the world, including the US Naval War College, the Harvard Kennedy School, the National Association of Japan America Societies in San Diego, and the Japanese National Security conference at the Free University of Berlin.

Professor Schneider published the book *Designing Industrial Policy in Latin America: Business-Government Relations and the New Developmentalism* and the article “The Developmental State in Brazil: Comparative and Historical Perspectives” in *Revista de Economia Política*. In addition, he presented “The Middle Income Trap: More Politics than Economics” at universities around the world, including institutions in Berlin, Bremen, and Turkey; “Democracy, Big Business, and the Challenges of Industrial Policy in Brazil” at the World Bank meetings in Brasília and Washington, DC; and “Comparative Perspectives on Business Politics in Latin America” in Bariloche, Argentina.


Professor Stanczyk presented “Comments on Free Time” at Dartmouth College, “Social Choice and Popular Control” at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, and “Robustly Anti-Paretian Outcome Egalitarianism” at the Princeton University Center for Human Values.

Professor Stewart co-published two books, *Election the Senate and Measuring American Elections*, and cowrote “Waiting to Vote” (with Stephen Ansolabehere) in the *Election Law Journal*. He presented his work at a number of different venues, including the
National Association of State Election Directors, the National Conference of State Legislatures, and the Bipartisan Policy Center.

Professor Thelen presented at 11 different institutes of education and research around the world, including the London School of Economics, the Universidad Torcuato di Tella in Buenos Aires, and Sciences Po in Paris, and delivered a keynote address for the Copenhagen Business School.

Professor Tsai authored “Constructive Noncompliance in Rural China” in Comparative Politics and co-authored “Does Information Lead to More Active Citizenship? Evidence from an Education Intervention in Rural Kenya” (with Professor Lieberman and Daniel Posner) in World Development. She presented her research to several groups, including the Annual World Bank Conference on Africa (University of California, Berkeley), the Harvard Academy of International Affairs, and AidData/Open Data for International Development (Washington, DC).

Professor Stephen Van Evera’s extensive research was shared in numerous platforms, including American University in Washington, DC; WBUR’s Open Source news program; and The Insight.

Professor Warshaw published “Representation in Municipal Government” (with Chris Tausanovitch) in the American Political Science Review and “Dynamic Estimation of Latent Public Opinion Using a Hierarchical Group-Level IRT Model” (with Professor Caughey) in Political Analysis. He shared his research at workshops at Yale and Duke, research seminars at MIT and Columbia, and conferences held by the American Political Science Association.


**Institute Service**

An important aspect of academic life is contributing to the educational commons through service to the Institute. Members of the Department of Political Science have historically been significant contributors to these efforts across the Institute. The following is a sample of the contributions that political science faculty made to Institute enterprises in AY2015.

Professor Bateson served on the Graduate Admissions Committee; helped form the new Poverty, Violence, and Development Working Group; and served as MIT’s faculty liaison to the Latin America Working Group, a joint venture between Harvard and MIT.
Professor Berger served as faculty director of the MISTI France program and co-chaired the Harvard/MIT State and Capitalism Seminar.

Professor Berinsky served as director of PERL, chaired the American politics faculty search and two faculty promotions committees, and served as an undergraduate minor advisor. In addition, he was a member of the Committee on the Use of Humans as Experimental Subjects, the Campus Climate Change Conversation Committee, and the Student Evaluation Advisory Committee.

Professor Campbell chaired the Graduate Program Committee, served as the graduate student job placement director and equal opportunity officer, chaired a second-year review committee, and served on a second-year review committee. In addition, she chaired the MIT Committee on Nominations and co-chaired the Campus Sustainability Task Force.

Professor Caughey served as a member of the Undergraduate Program Committee and as a reviewer for six different journals, including the American Journal of Political Science.

Professor Choucri was a member the MIT Faculty Newsletter Editorial Board, the Technology and Culture Program’s steering committee, and the Faculty Policy Committee. Also, she served on the editorial board of the American Political Science Review, as a member of the science board of the Santa Fe Institute, and as a reviewer for several professional journals, including the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Journal.

Professor Christia served on the Graduate Program Committee, as a second-year review committee member, as a faculty coordinator for the Comparative Politics Speaker Series, and on several Institute committees, including the SHASS dean’s search committee and the Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid. In addition, she was faculty chair for Women in International Security and a member of the MISTI Global Seed Fund Review Committee. She also served as a reviewer for six different journals, including International Studies Quarterly and World Politics.

Professor Fravel chaired the Graduate Admissions Committee, served on the Presidential Committee on Distinguished Fellowships, and was a reviewer for the MISTI Global Seed Fund and China Global Seed Fund review panels. On a national level, he served as a member of the U.S.-China Crisis Management Project Steering Committee and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. He was a reviewer for or member of 18 editorial boards, publications, and foundations, including Security Studies, the International Studies Quarterly, and the Smith Richardson Foundation.

Professor Gavin was a member of the Graduate Admissions Committee. In addition, he served as an associate for the Project on Managing the Atom, based at Harvard University; as a senior advisor for the Woodrow Wilson Center’s Nuclear Proliferation International History Project; and as a member of the Security Studies editorial board.
Professor Kim served on the department’s Undergraduate Program Committee.

Professor Lawson served as director of MISTI and as a member of the Undergraduate Program Committee.

Professor Lieberman was a member of the Undergraduate Program Committee, was a faculty organizer for the African Working Group, organized the Boston-Area Working Group in African Political Economy, served on the MIT Africa Advisory Executive Committee, and was a reviewer for five different publishers.

Professor Narang served as the graduate student job placement director and as a reviewer for seven different journals, including the Journal of Conflict Resolution and the American Journal of Political Science.

Professor Nielsen was a member of the Graduate Admissions Committee and a reviewer for 13 different publications.

Professor Nobles served as department head, as a member of the Subcommittee on Governance to Restructure Engineering Systems, and as the SHASS representative on the provost’s advisory search committee for a director of the MIT Environmental Initiative.

Professor Oye served as director of the Program on Emerging Technologies and was a member of the faculty tenure promotion committee, the Ad Hoc Committee on Science and Technology Policy Certificate Program, and the Policy Committee of the International Design Development Summit. He was a panelist and reviewer for NSF, the Department of Energy’s Joint Genome Institute, and the Smithsonian Institution’s Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

Professor Petersen served as chair of the Graduate Program Committee, as a member of a faculty tenure promotion committee, and as faculty supervisor for the student-run “Strategic Use of Force” workshop.

Professor Posen served as director of the Security Studies Program, as a member of the Graduate Program Committee, and as an executive board member of CIS’s Seminar XXI. He also was a member of the National Intelligence Council Study Group on Strategic Reactions to American Preeminence.

Professor Samuels was director of CIS and the MIT-Japan Program, senior advisor to the Lincoln Laboratory Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief Project, a moderator for the roundtable on innovation with prime minister Shinzo Abe, a member of the Graduate Program Committee, and an undergraduate advisor for minors in applied international studies. He was also a consultant to the National Intelligence Council.

Professor Schneider served as director of the MIT-Brazil Program, supervised the MISTI internship program, and was a member of a third-year review committee. In addition, he served on the MIT-Chile Seed Fund selection committee and the Committee on Outside
Professional Activities. Professor Schneider organized the committee for a new network on Latin American political economy (REPAL) and served as co-chair of REPAL’s 2015 conference in Montevideo. He was a reviewer for eight different publishers, served as an associate for the National Intelligence Council, and provided periodic consulting on Latin America.

Professor Singer served as associate housemaster of the MacGregor House and was a member of the housemaster search committee, the Graduate Policy Committee, and the Medical Consumers’ Advisory Council. Also, he was associate editor of International Studies Quarterly and a faculty affiliate for the Sloan School of Management’s Center for Finance and Policy.

Professor Stanczyk served as a reviewer for four different publishers.

Professor Stewart was the department’s undergraduate advisor, housemaster of McCormick Hall, chair of the Academic Performance Committee, faculty director of the MIT Washington Summer Internship Program, and a member of the American Political Science Association’s Trust and Development Fund Board.

Professor Thelen served as treasurer for the American Political Science Association and was co–general editor of the Cambridge University Press Series in Comparative Politics.

Professor Tsai organized the MIT-Boston Review Roundtable on the Ethics of Field Experiments; co-led the Poverty, Violence, and Development Working Group; served on the SHASS Education Advisory Committee; and was an editorial board member for three publications. She also was a member of the visiting committee of the Ash Center for Democratic Governance at the Harvard Kennedy School.

Professor Van Evera served as associate director of the Center for International Studies, on the Council of Foreign Relations, and as chair and organizer of the Tobin Project’s national security working group.

Professor Warshaw was a member of the Graduate Admissions Committee, the American politics faculty search committee, and the MIT Energy Initiative’s Energy Education Task Force. In addition, he was a Burchard Scholars Faculty Fellow and a reviewer for 10 different journals.

Professor Yamamoto served on the Statistics Curriculum Committee and as a referee for 12 different journals.

Melissa Nobles
Department Head
Arthur and Ruth Sloan Professor of Political Science