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

Over the last eight years, the Political Science Department has experienced an 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, to 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 short- and medium-term resources into the department. Our rise in the rankings, our success in recruiting new PhD students, and the increasingly prominent placements of our PhD graduates indicate that we are well on our way toward achieving our goals.

This past year, the department has focused on the following:

- Maintaining and strengthening the department’s finances so that we can support a healthy, 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 best possible education in politics, policy, and the underlying methods required to understand and evaluate competing political positions and 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 the Institute, the discipline, and the world) and our intellectual community
- Fostering cultural norms within 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 MIT. 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

The department is continuing to raise funds for our graduate program in order to reach the goal of admitting 13 to 15 students per year. Although permanent fellowship funds from external donors (i.e., Andrónico Luksic, Jon Borschow, and Nike Inc.) have gone a
long way toward establishing three endowed graduate fellowships, there is still a major gap that we are working hard to close.

**Faculty Searches and Diversity Initiatives**

In AY2017, the department undertook a junior search in comparative politics and an open rank search in political theory. We invited three candidates to give job talks in comparative politics. Volha Charnysh was offered the position and accepted it. We also invited three candidates to give job talks in political theory. Bernardo Zacka was offered the position and accepted it. Each of the new hires will be taking a fellowship year and will be starting in fall 2018.

Along with attracting qualified underrepresented minority candidates to the department through the regular search process, we participate in the provost- and School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences (SHASS)-sponsored Race and Diversity Predoctoral Fellowship program. Alejandro Flores, a doctoral candidate from the University of Chicago, accepted our offer this year, and we look forward to having him join the department in fall 2017. In addition, for the first time the department hosted an MIT Summer Research Program (MSRP) student in summer 2016. This program brings underrepresented minority, first-generation, and low-income college students interested in graduate school to MIT for research experience and mentorship. Carly Gottorff, now a graduate of the University of Buffalo, worked with Professor Lily Tsai and her MIT Governance Lab (GOV/LAB) team to create a first-of-its-kind dataset looking at the spatial relationship between armed rebel groups and humanitarian aid worldwide. We hosted a second MSRP student in summer 2017. Finally, to increase diversity in our graduate program applicant pool, professors Adam Berinsky and Ariel White publicized our program at the Ralph Bunche Summer Institute, an academic program for top underrepresented minority undergraduate students interested in political science careers.

**Intellectual Commons**

The department continues to support a series of research-related activities, including the Political Experiments Research Lab, Seminar on the State and Capitalism since 1800, American Politics workshop series, Strategic Use of Force working group, Security Studies program seminars, Latin Americanists working group and dissertation group; political methodology research seminars and workshops, GOV/LAB conferences and seminars, the Election Science group, the Comparative Politics speaker series, and the Violence, and Development working group. These seminars and workshops have created a sense of intellectual energy and excitement within the department. This academic year we added an International Political Economy speaker series under the leadership of David Singer, Rich Nielsen, and In Song Kim, as well as the Data Science to Solve Social Problems series funded by GOV/LAB and organized by F. Daniel Hidalgo. We also sponsored a conference on comparative political behavior in fall 2016.

Professor Charles Stewart launched the MIT Election Data and Science Laboratory with major grants from the Pew Charitable Trusts, the Hewlett Foundation, and the Joyce Foundation. Lily Tsai secured multi-year planning grants for the MIT GOV/LAB, as well as from the Pew Charitable Trusts and the Hewlett Foundation. The MIT GOV/LAB continues to grow in personnel and scope. In addition, the department’s political science faculty members (Chappell Lawson, Michael Piore, Richard Samuels, Suzanne Berger,
and Ben Ross Schneider) continue to play a major role in the MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives (MISTI) program.

**Educational Initiatives**

The department’s core mission is education, starting on the MIT campus and extending into the world beyond. Fulfillment of that mission is centered on the undergraduate and graduate programs, both of which are in a state of equilibrium following the reforms of several years ago.

Instruction in political methodology in our graduate program has been maintained and enhanced. In addition to a required scope and methods course and a four-course sequence in quantitative methodology, we offer courses in game theory and qualitative political methodology. Our strong methods sequence is further enhanced by two graduate courses in applied methods, Professor Richard Nielsen’s 17.426 Empirical Methods in International Relations and Professor Daniel Hidalgo’s 17.830 Empirical Methods in Political Economy. The quality of our methods sequence and additional offerings have attracted attention in the discipline and are helping us to recruit excellent graduate students and give them the training they need to be competitive for the top political science faculty positions. In spring 2017 the faculty voted to join the MIT Institute for Data, Systems, and Society’s (IDSS) joint PhD program, which will further enhance our ability to attract the best political methodology students to the department.

In terms of the undergraduate program, the faculty developed new subjects aimed at increasing our undergraduate enrollments during AY2017. These included CC.117 Humane Warfare: Ancient and Medieval Perspectives on Ethics in War, jointly listed with Concourse, and 17.56 The Politics of Crime and Policing. To increase attendance and popularity in our applied international studies minor we applied for and received Communication Intensive subject in the Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences status for the required class, 17.591 Research Seminar in Applied International Studies. Chappell Lawson developed a multi-country feeder course for MISTI students, and Evan Lieberman obtained funding from the Office of Digital Learning to create our first Massive Open Online Course (MOOC), an offering on democratic politics in contemporary Africa, the development of which will also enhance the residential class.

In addition to its political science curriculum, the department is home to a number of internship and other hands-on experiences, mostly for undergraduates, which allow science and engineering students to engage with policymakers at home and with laboratories and industries abroad. Two are worth highlighting here, MISTI and the Washington, DC, Internship Program.

Although MISTI is formally affiliated with the Center for International Studies, almost all of the faculty directors of the country programs are from the Department of Political Science, as is the overall director of MISTI, Professor Chappell 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.

The MIT Washington, DC Summer Internship Program continues to provide MIT’s technically oriented students opportunities 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. Seventeen undergraduates from three of the five Institute’s schools (School of Engineering, School of Science, and School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences) participated in summer 2017. They worked at the US Department of Health and Human Services, US Department of Transportation, US Census Bureau, US Patent and Trade Office, the Children’s National Health System, US Congressman Michael Capuano’s Office, Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, CARE, the Environmental Protection Agency, the World Bank Group, and the MIT Washington Office.

**Student Recruitment, Placement, and Enrollment**

The department reviewed 354 applications for the PhD program, just shy of the 356 reviewed the previous year. In AY2016, 12 of the 28 admitted students accepted our offer of admission. Since one deferred to AY2017, the incoming cohort was 11, one short of our ideal of 12. This year, knowing that we had one deferral who would be joining the AY2017 cohort, our target yield was 11. We admitted 31 students, of whom 13 accepted our offer of admission, including six women. With one of the 13 deferring to AY2018, the net AY2017 cohort will be 13, one more than our ideal of 12. Last year we noted the significance of the fact that two of the incoming AY2016 PhD students were Americanists, in contrast with AY2015, when there were none. This year, four of the incoming cohort are Americanists, a record number.

Graduating doctoral students continue to garner rewarding and prestigious appointments in higher education and industry. This year, our PhD graduates secured faculty appointments at Princeton University; American University; the University of California, Merced; the University of Oregon; the University of Maryland, College Park; University College London; and the Asia School of Business, as well as postdoctoral fellowships at the Harvard Kennedy School, Northeastern University, and Princeton University.

Undergraduate enrollments in our classes for AY2017 was 1,168, a little lower than our final figure for AY2016 (1,262) but slightly higher than AY2015 (1,019). The number of undergraduate political science majors was slightly higher this year. We increased from 12 to 14 undergraduate majors. The number of students in our concentration and in our three minors stayed about the same. We had 88 concentrators (in all graduation years), and 45 minors overall (17 in political science, eight in public policy, and 20 in applied international studies).

**Faculty Promotions**

We are delighted to report that Kenneth Oye and Fotini Christia were promoted to full professor and Vipin Narang to associate professor with tenure this year. In addition, Richard Nielsen and Devin Caughey were promoted to associate professor without tenure.

**Awards and Grants**

Notable awards, grants, recognitions, and important professional responsibilities given to faculty members during AY2017 are listed below.

Professor Suzanne Berger was named the 2016 Bingham Powell Outstanding Mentor by the American Political Science Association’s Comparative Politics Section.
Professor Adam Berinsky was honored as the AY2017 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation fellow, and 2017 Joan Shorenstein fellow at the Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics, and Public Policy, at Harvard’s Kennedy School. He received a National Science Foundation Political Science program grant with Matthew Baum and Teppei Yamamoto (his portion with Yamamoto being $500,000) in addition to two continuing grants (with Berinsky’s portion totaling $528,326.)

Professor Andrea Campbell was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Professor Devin Caughey was awarded a visiting scholar fellowship at the Center for the Study of Democratic Politics at Princeton University, for AY2017.

Professor Fotini Christia was awarded a one-year extension to her Army Research Office Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative grant.

Professor M. Taylor Fravel served as an Andrew Carnegie fellow for the AY2017. In addition, he was awarded a MISTI Global Seed Fund grant, and a junior faculty research grant by the Smith Richardson Foundation, in their International Security and Foreign Policy Program.

Professor Evan Lieberman was awarded a $102,502 grant from Twaweza for his proposal, “Empowering Parents to be More Active Citizens at Home and in Schools: Proposal for a Collaborative Investigation of the Validated Participation Intervention.” From Making all Voices Count, he was awarded £85,146 (~$102,170) for “Closing the Feedback Loop in South African Local Governance: A Longitudinal Study of Local Councillor Performance in Urban and Near-Urban Municipalities,” all in addition to two smaller grants totaling $29,950. Lieberman has developed the MITx course 17.571x Democracy and Development: Perspectives from Africa, to launch in September 2017, in addition to the new class 17.590 State-Building.

Professor Vipin Narang was named to India’s 50 Open Minds list in April 2017.

Professor Richard Nielsen was awarded a AY2018 Andrew Carnegie fellowship.

Professor Kenneth Oye was awarded an International Policy Lab grant for his “Technical and Policy Measures to Mitigate Risks of Synthetic Biology.”

Professor Barry Posen served as the Henry Kissinger Chair for the Kluge Center at the Library of Congress. He was also honored with the MIT Frank Perkins Award and was presented with a Distinguished Scholar Award from the International Studies Association, International Security Studies Section.

Professor Richard Samuels served as the Albert Einstein Foundation visiting fellow at the Graduate School of East Asian Studies at the Free University of Berlin. He also served as the distinguished speaker at the Northeast Asia Council of the Association of Asian Studies. In addition, Samuels received a Smith Richardson Foundation grant to support field research on the history of the Japanese intelligence community.
Professor David Singer was honored with the MIT Change Maker Award for “shifting the culture that perpetuates sexual violence.”

Professor Charles Stewart was awarded a year-long AY2018 Carnegie fellowship. He was also awarded three new grants totaling $1,738,903 from the Pew Charitable Trusts for “The 2016 Survey of the Performance of American Elections” ($138,903); from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation for “The MIT Election Data and Science Lab” ($1,400,000); and, from the Joyce Foundation for “State Election Landscapes” ($200,000).

Professor Kathleen Thelen was elected president-elect of the American Political Science Association, where she has launched the presidential task force “Advancement of Women in the Profession.” Through the Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy at Columbia University she received a grant for a conference titled The American Political Economy in Comparative Perspective with Alexander Hertel-Fernandez.

Professor Lily Tsai, director of the Governance Lab, was awarded new grants from the Ford Foundation ($600,000), STL Real Estate research grant ($149,000), Twaweza East Africa ($150,000), and from Evidence in Governance Politics ($207,472), in addition to $1,408,872 in ongoing grants.

Professor Ariel White was awarded the Heinz Eulau Award for best article in the American Political Science Review in 2015.

Professor Teppei Yamamoto was awarded a Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences fellowship.

**Faculty Leaves, Departures, and Visitors**

Professors Regina Bateson, Adam Berinsky, Devin Caughey, M. Taylor Fravel, In Song Kim, Barry Posen, Stephen Van Evera, and Teppei Yamamoto were on leave for the academic year. Professors Fotini Christia and Lily Tsai were on leave for fall semester, and Professors Charles Stewart and Chris Warshaw were on leave for spring semester. Professor Frank Gavin resigned his position as the Frank Stanton Professor in Nuclear Security Policy Studies at MIT to take up a position as the director of the new Henry A. Kissinger Center for Global Affairs at the School of International Studies at Johns Hopkins as of January 15, 2017.

**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 research and publications over the past year.

Professor Regina Bateson shared her research at several events, including her talk “Order and Violence in Postwar Guatemala,” delivered at Upsala University in Sweden, the American Political Science Association’s 2017 annual meeting, and for seminars at Princeton and Harvard.
Professor Suzanne Berger presented her research at numerous events, including a lecture titled “Populism and the Fate of Globalization” at the Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques, Paris. Other events included the plenary panel at the France Economic Forum, Aspen Institute in Italy, and MIT’s panel presentation “Future of Work,” for Secretary of State John Kerry.


Professor Andrea Campbell was selected to join We the People (W. W. Norton,) the number-one-selling American government textbook, to replace a retiring author. In addition, she published two articles, including “Trump’s Tax Plan for the One Percent,” in Foreign Affairs, and one book chapter, among other pieces. She reviewed eight book manuscripts for four major publishers, and serves on four editorial boards. She wrote seven tenure reviews and four full professor and lateral hire reviews. Campbell shared her research at 15 different seminars and colloquia, including selection as the speaker for Class III (Social Sciences) at the American Academy of Arts and Sciences induction ceremony in October 2016.

Professor Devin Caughey co-authored three articles as well as the Dynamic Estimation of Group-Level Opinion R package. He shared his research at eight different conferences, including a lecture called “Dynamic Responsiveness in the American States, 1936–2014” to the “How Do Politicians Learn?” workshop at Princeton University. Caughey also presented “Confounding in Survey Experiments: Diagnostics and Solutions,” to the workshop A Perfect Match? Comparative Political Economy and Conjoint Analysis at the University of Zurich, and presented “Beyond the Sharp Null: Permutation Tests Actually Test Heterogeneous Effects,” at the summer meeting of the Society for Political Methodology at Rice University.

Professor Nazli Choucri shared her expertise and research at seven different symposia and conferences, including a presentation on “Effectiveness of the NIST Cybersecurity Framework” at the MIT (IC)3 Annual Conference at the Stata Center as well as a presentation to the Department of Defense at the Pentagon to discuss the potential collaboration on cybersecurity. She authored two articles and the book chapter “Emerging Trends in Cyberspace: Dimensions and Dilemmas” in Phil Williams and Dighton Fiddner’s Cyberspace: Malevolent Actors, Criminal Opportunities, and Strategic Competition.

Finally, she serves as the principal investigator for the USAID project Countering Violent Extremism in Kenya through Democracy International, and a second project on local governance in the West Bank through the National Opinion Research Center.

Professor M. Taylor Fravel shared his research and expertise at 10 different seminars and colloquia, including his presentations “China’s Territorial Disputes: Past, Present, and Future,” at Stanford University in May 2017, “Explaining the Evolution of China’s Military Strategy,” at the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs’s Lone Star Forum at the University of Texas in April 2017, and “China’s Calculus in the South China Sea,” to the Pacific Command in Honolulu as well as to the Department of State in Washington, DC. He continues service on several national platforms, including as PI for the Maritime Awareness Project, and on the US-China Crisis Management Project steering committee for the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Fravel is an editorial board member and reviewer for numerous publications. He authored two book chapters, one article, and co-authored a second article.

Professor In Song Kim published “LobbyView: Firm-Level Lobbying and Congressional Bills Database,” providing users access to funding databases that store relationships between bills, their lobbyists, and various other related pieces of data. He also published two articles, including “Political Cleavages within Industry: Firm-Level Lobbying for Trade Liberalization,” a lead article in American Political Science Review. He presented his research at eight different seminars, including his “Measuring Trade Profile with Two Billion Observations of Product Trade,” to the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology in Seoul, and “When Should We Use Linear Fixed Effects Regression Models for Causal Inference with Longitudinal Data?” at Harvard University. He also served as reviewer for four different publications, including International Studies Quarterly.

Professor Chappell Lawson lent his expertise to the Department of Homeland Security as senior advisor for targeting to the assistant secretary for policy. He served as reviewer for various publications including the American Journal of Political Science, American Political Science Review, Comparative Politics, Mexican Politics, and World Politics.

Professor Even Lieberman served as honorary research associate at the University of Cape Town’s Centre for Social Science Research. He spoke at six different workshops and meetings, including a seminar at the London School of Economics on the topic “Can Validated Participation Increase Active Citizenship: Results from a Phase I Study.”

Professor Vipin Narang presented at five seminars, including at the Carnegie Nuclear Policy Conference in Washington, DC, and the Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies in New Delhi. His Carnegie presentation sparked numerous citations, quotes, mentions, and discussions in the media (Wall Street Journal, Business Standard, and The Diplomat, among others), in addition to his regular presence in the media (New York Times, Washington Post, etc.). Professor Narang authored one publication, and co-authored a second. Narang is an associate editor for International Security Studies Forum and H-Diplo, and a reviewer for 10 different publishers and publications.

Professor Richard Nielsen shared his research at four different seminars and colloquia, including “Gendering Salafi Authority” at the Center for Middle East Studies at Harvard University and “Deadly Clerics: Violent Convictions, Blocked Ambitions, and the Paths
to Jihad” at Northwestern University. He served as a reviewer for 14 academic journals, Cambridge University Press, and the National Science Foundation. Nielsen also co-authored “The Balance-Sample Size Frontier in Matching Methods for Causal Inference,” in the American Journal of Political Science.

Professor Kenneth Oye spoke at 16 different seminars and colloquia around the world, including the biennial meeting of the International Experts Group on Biosecurity and Biosafety Regulation at the Ministry of Health in Canberra, Australia. He gave testimony (as well as providing written testimony) for the US-China Economic and Security Review Commission at the Senate foreign relations room in Washington, DC, and presented at a group of lectures and workshops for ETH Zurich. In addition, he taught seminars at MIT and Harvard University. He co-published a chapter for the 2017 European Union Directorate-General’s Free Trade Agreements and Patterns of Risk Regulation in the EU and the US. Oye also published an article in Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics.

Professor Roger Petersen published one article, and discussed his research at six speaking events, including as a consultant on violence in the Middle East for the US Department of State’s Bureau of Counterterrorism, at a summit at the Charles Stark Draper Laboratory, at the MIT Center for International Studies’ meeting with consul generals, at a University of Cambridge conference, at a book workshop at Harvard University for Jill Hazelton’s “The False Promise of the Governance Model of Counterinsurgency Warfare,” and finally as speaker at the book launch of Dara Kay Cohen’s Rape During Civil War at Harvard University.

Professor Barry Posen published four articles and spoke at 11 different panels, seminars, and strategic discussions, including “Retrospective on Command of the Commons” at the Conference on Command of the Commons, hosted by the Bush School at Texas A&M University. He also presented at the Army Plans and Policy meeting at the Pentagon and partook in the National Intelligence Council’s Global Futures Group study groups. He provided expert commentary on the PBS documentary American Umpire, in the fall, and began a term on the Board of Overseers for the Watson Institute at Brown University in spring 2017.

Professor Richard Samuels spoke at 15 different panels, conferences, and lectures, and made multiple broadcast media appearances in the US and Japan. Highlights include “Japanese Grand Strategy: The Moving Parts,” a seminar at Middlebury College, and “Japan’s Pivot in Sinitic Asia,” a paper presented to the Futures Seminar at the National Intelligence Council in Washington, DC. Samuels co-authored one book chapter and two articles.

Professor Ben Ross Schneider presented at 10 different seminars and colloquia around the globe, including the seminars “Easy and Hard Redistribution: The Political Economy of Welfare States in Latin America” at GRADE (Grupo de Análisis para el Desarrollo) in Lima, and “Managing the Politics of Education Reform: Lessons from Global Experience” for the Center for Research and Teaching in Economics in Mexico City. Schneider served as a reviewer for five different journals, the Cambridge University Press, and Stanford University Press, and as co-editor for the Cambridge University Press’s Elements series on politics of development. He published three articles, including “The Middle Income Trap: More Politics than Economics” with Richard Doner in World Politics.
Professor David Singer authored two op-eds in the Washington Post, presented “The Political Economy of the Trump Presidency” to MIT Concourse, and “President Trump and the Global Economy: Implications for China” to the MIT Chinese Students and Scholars Association. He is an associate editor for International Studies Quarterly and reviewer for both Cambridge University Press and Cornell University Press.

Professor Charles Stewart presented and spoke at 11 different lectures and conferences, including a presentation titled “President Trump’s Victory: American Politics at a Turning Point,” at the annual Mitsui Lecture delivered to the Mitsui Interbusiness Research Institute in Tokyo. He also served as an expert witness in the North Carolina voting rights case on behalf of the US Department of Justice. Stewart authored two articles, and eight op-eds during this critical voting season.

Professor Kathleen Thelen co-authored three articles, and spoke at five invited lectures in the United States and abroad, including “Institutions and Institutional Change” at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Society in Cologne, Germany.

Professor Lily Tsai published four articles, which include “Bringing in China: Insights for Building Comparative Political Theory” in Comparative Political Studies, and co-authored “Public Health and Public Trust: Survey Evidence from the Ebola Virus Disease Epidemic in Liberia,” published in Social Science and Medicine. Tsai shared her research at five different workshops and meetings, which include the seminar “Building Trust and Compliance with Government in Weak States: Mediated Persuasion during the 2014–2015 Ebola Crisis.” She is an editorial board member for Political Behavior, and a reviewer for seven different journals.


Professor Ariel White shared her research at five different conferences and workshops, including Yale University’s Institution for Social and Policy Studies Experiments Workshop, “How the Mass Media Activates Public Expression and Influences National Agendas.” White served as a reviewer for six different journals and published one article.

Professor Teppei Yamamoto spoke at six different seminars and meetings, which included the seminar “Party Manifestos and Voters’ Multidimensional Policy Preferences: Identification via a Conjoint Experiment,” at Yale University.

**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 in AY2017.
Professor Suzanne Berger served as chair for the political theory faculty search committee, and on the advisory council on the search for the director of the MIT Washington Office.

Professor Adam Berinsky served as director of the Political Experiments Research Lab, as a member on two promotion committees, chaired MIT’s search committee for graduate heads of house at the Warehouse and Eastgate communities, and served as housemaster at Ashdown House.

Professor Andrea Campbell served her second year as department head. She also co-chaired the Campus Sustainability Task Force.

Professor Nazli Choucri served on the department’s graduate committee, in addition to several Institute-wide roles, including MIT’s Committee on Academic Performance. He also served as a faculty member on the MIT (IC)3 Consortium.

Professor Fotini Christia served on MIT’s graduate program and admissions committees for the Social and Engineering Systems.

Professor M. Taylor Fravel served on the Institute’s Presidential Committee on Distinguished Fellowships and on the MIT Seminar XXI executive board.

Professor F. Daniel Hidalgo served on the comparative politics faculty search committee.

Professor In Song Kim served as the Institute’s faculty representative to the Harvard-MIT Data Center.

Professor Chappell Lawson served as director of the MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives and the International Policy Lab.

Professor Evan Lieberman chaired the comparative politics faculty search committee, served as the comparative politics section coordinator, chaired one promotion committee, and served on the graduate admissions committee. At the Institute, he serves on the MIT Africa Advisory Executive Committee, Climate Action Advisory Committee, faculty committee on campus planning, and the MISTI collaborative conference selection committee.

Vipin Narang served as a member on 11 active PhD committees.

Professor Richard Nielsen served on the IDSS Statistics and Data Science PhD committee.

Professor Kenneth Oye served in many leadership roles for the Institute, including as director for the MIT Program on Emerging Technologies, and as a member of MIT’s Center for Biomedical Innovation and the MIT Synthetic Biology Center.

Professor Roger Petersen served as acting director for the Security Studies Program, on two department faculty promotion committees, one faculty search committee, and supervised the student-run workshop “Strategic Use of Force.” To the Institute, he served as a freshman advisor, and on the ROTC advisory board. Petersen served on 13 PhD committees, seven of those as the committee chair.
Professor Barry Posen served as director of the Center for International Studies’ Security Studies Program and is on the executive committee of MIT Seminar XXI.

Professor Richard Samuels served as director of the Center for International Studies, the MIT-Japan MISTI program, as a freshman advisor, and chaired the department’s undergraduate program committee.

Professor Ben Ross Schneider served as director of the MIT-Brazil MISTI program and chair of the department’s graduate admissions committee, in addition to his service as director of graduate studies, and as the faculty advisor for the minor in applied international studies.

Professor David Singer served on the department’s graduate policy committee, the comparative politics faculty search committee, and as the international political economy series coordinator. At the Institute, he chaired the Committee on Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response, and served on committees for hospitalization and medical leave, and search advisory subcommittee for the associate medical director/chief of mental health.

Professor Ariel White served on the graduate admissions committee, several interdepartmental and open house panels for students, and several Institute panels, including a School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences “Election Insight” seminar, and on the Graduate Student Council postelection panel.

Professor Charles Stewart served as the director for the Washington, DC, Summer Internship Program, as the department’s undergraduate program committee chair, concentration advisor, and as a freshman advisor. He chaired one faculty promotion committee and served on a second.

Professor Kathleen Thelen organized the Comparative Politics Speaker Series, served on one promotion committee and on one faculty search committee.

Professor Lily Tsai served as the department’s director for graduate students on the job market. She also served on the working group on external funding for graduate research, a PhD admissions committee, two faculty promotion committees, and the minority predoctoral fellowship program selection committee. At the Institute, she served on the provost’s working group on graduate student tuition models, the Presidential Committee on Race and Diversity, and as faculty advisor for the MIT Summer Research Program.

Professor Christopher Warshaw served on the department’s graduate program committee. In addition, he served on the MIT Energy Initiative’s Energy Education Task Force, the Transportation Committee, as a reviewer and advisor for the International Policy Lab at the Center for International Studies, and on the leadership team for a new concentration in legal studies.

Andrea Campbell  
Department Head  
Arthur and Ruth Sloan Professor of Political Science