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Dr. Ewa Golebiowska — new book



Ewa Golebiowska

Associate Professor Ewa Golebiowska has amassed a superlative publication record since coming to Wayne State from Tufts University. In addition to a new book, she has published 12 refereed journal articles and six chapters in edited collections. Golebiowska has also received more than \$65,000 in grants in support of her research.

Her book, *The Many Faces of Tolerance: Attitudes toward Diversity in Poland* (Routledge), was printed in the summer of 2014. The work presents a systematic account on Poles' attitudes toward ethnic, religious, political and sexual minorities, and investigates Poland's reputation as an intolerant, anti-Semitic and homophobic country. Counter to a simplistic image of Poland as a hotbed of intolerance, the study shows that Polish intolerance has many faces: Polish attitudes toward diversity vary across groups and issues. The findings indicate that the extent to which Polish attitudes are more or less negative depends on the individual rights or activities they are asked to support and who the respondents happen to be. In contrast, previous research described Poles' attitudes toward a single minority at a time and only examined subgroup differences in their thinking about diversity.

As a path-breaking study, Golebiowska's book is a multivariate analysis of Polish sentiments toward groups against which there has been historical and/or current discrimination. The work assesses Poles' acceptance of different minorities and identifies its sources. As part of the study's achievements, the book develops a ranking of influences on Polish attitudes toward diversity, forecasts future changes in tolerance in Poland and proposes practical strategies to ameliorate existing discrimination. In short, the book is the most comprehensive and empirically sophisticated analysis of Polish attitudes toward diversity to date.

Golebiowska's work continues to bring a high level of visibility to the cutting-edge research conducted by the Department of Political Science at Wayne State University.

Research scholar Dr. Daunis Auers visits Department of Political Science

Daunis Auers, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Comparative Politics in the Department of Political Science at the University of Latvia, spent the winter 2014 semester on sabbatical as a Baltic American Freedom Foundation research scholar with Wayne State University's Department of Political Science. Auers is completing his book *The Politics and Government of the Baltic States: Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania in the 21st Century*, which will be published by Palgrave Macmillan (London) in 2015.



Daunis Auers

Auers was born and raised in the United Kingdom, but has been primarily based in the Baltic states since 1993. He has a master's from the London School of Economics and defended his doctoral dissertation — a case study of the role of political parties in consolidating democracy in Latvia — at University College London's School of Slavonic and East European Studies in 2006. He was a Fulbright Scholar at the University of California, Berkeley in 2005-06. He is an active member of the Nordic-Baltic scholarly community, having served as vice president of the Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies and, more recently, as Latvia's representative on the European Commission's Seventh Research Framework Program Committee for the socioeconomic sciences and humanities.

Auers has authored and co-authored numerous articles and chapters on issues relating to the politics and government of the Baltic states. In 2008, he edited a book concerning the relationship between Latvia and the United States, *Latvia and the USA: From Captive Nation to Strategic Partner*. His most recent research has focused on the rise of radical right-wing populism across the Baltic Sea region.

Distinguished Professor Philip Abbott to retire



Philip Abbott

I joined Wayne State University as Chair of the Department of Political Science in August 2004. One of the principal reasons for my decision was the opportunity to work with a scholar of the stature of Philip Abbott. Although I had never met Professor Abbott before my first visit to Wayne State, I was aware of his extraordinary body of work and stellar reputation in the discipline. My choice to accept the position of Chair was directly related to his presence and the status this conferred on the department.

Abbott is the author of 13 books and three edited volumes. These works are among the most notable in the fields of political theory and the American presidency. His book *Political Thought in America* is the leading text on American political theory. Professor Abbott's scholarly record also includes the authorship of eight chapters in edited collections and the co-authorship of one additional chapter. He has published a total of 35 articles in such prestigious journals as *Perspectives on Politics*, *Polity*, *Journal of Politics*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Political Theory* and *Presidential Studies Quarterly*. This body of work has established Philip Abbott as one of the leading scholars in political science.

Phil received his Ph.D. from Rutgers University in 1971, with a dissertation directed by Gordon Schochet. He began his work as an assistant professor at Wayne State University in 1970 and was promoted to professor in 1980. Long recognized as one of the nation's foremost political theorists, in the 1990s Professor Abbott began to receive national recognition for his research on the American presidency. Unlike many political theorists, Phil had a profound appreciation of the relevance of his subject matter to contemporary life and its value in illuminating real-world ethical dilemmas.

In keeping with Philip's extraordinary record of scholarship, he has been the recipient of prestigious external awards, including his 1997 appointment by the American Fulbright Association as the Thomas Jefferson Professor of American Political Institutions at the University of Amsterdam. Professor Abbott has also been the recipient of every major internal award for scholarship that Wayne State University bestows. He is the only member of the faculty of the Department of Political Science — and one of the few faculty members in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences — to be inducted into the Academy of Scholars. He is the recipient of two Board of Governors Faculty Recognition Awards: one in 1981 for his book *Furious Fancies: American Political Thought in the Post-Liberal Era* (Greenwood Press), and a second in 1988 for his two books published in 1987, *Seeking Many Inventions: The Idea of Community in America* (University of Tennessee Press) and *States of Perfect Freedom: Autobiography and American Political Thought*

(University of Massachusetts Press). Among Abbott's other awards are a Gershenson Distinguished Faculty Fellowship for 1989-90, a Distinguished Graduate Faculty Award in 1991 and the 1991 Michigan Association of Governing Boards of Higher Education Award. In 2005, in recognition of his accomplishments as a scholar, he was named a Distinguished University Professor.

Abbott's remarkable record extends to his teaching and service to the Department of Political Science, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the university. Professor Abbott has taught a large number of different undergraduate and graduate courses, including the required doctoral seminar in Philosophical Problems of Inquiry. When a senior faculty member who had taught the department's course on the American presidency retired in the mid-1990s, Professor Abbott agreed to assume responsibility for teaching the course and focused much of his subsequent research on questions relevant to the concerns of that course. In recognition of the superb quality of his teaching, he received a President's Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1990 and the university's Graduate Mentor Award in 2005.

Lastly, Phil Abbott has made huge contributions to the governance of the Department of Political Science, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Wayne State University as a whole. Aside from when he has been on leave or phased retirement, he served as an elected member of the department's Policy and Personnel Committee and as its chair every year since the early 1980s. Professor Abbott served as the assistant dean and graduate officer of the College of Liberal Arts from 1978-81, has served one or more terms on over a half-dozen college committees, and was president of the Liberal Arts Faculty Council from 2001-02. Professor Abbott was an elected member of the University Academic Senate from 1987-99 and chaired the policy committee of that body in both the 1990-91 and 1995-96 terms. His service to the university also included memberships to more than 30 different standing or ad hoc committees.

In sum, Philip Abbott has been an invaluable asset to Wayne State University. His stellar reputation as a scholar and the status he conferred on the Department of Political Science, the college and university is difficult to measure. His contributions to his students and to university governance have been enormous. It is with great sadness that I announce Phil's retirement at the end of this academic year.

Daniel Geller
Chair
Department of Political Science

Adjunct Instructor Sandra Svoboda takes to the field



Field trips aren't just for grade schoolers. During the winter 2014 semester, Adjunct Instructor Sandra Svoboda's PS 5050 Politics and Mass Media class held a session in the studios of WDET-FM 101.9, complete

with a guest lecturer. Station General Manager Craig Fahle, host of *The Craig Fahle Show*, spent about 90 minutes with the class.

Fahle hired Svoboda late last year as the station's point person for the Detroit Journalism Cooperative project. With funding from three foundations, five nonprofit media groups are coordinating and expanding coverage of Detroit's bankruptcy. Svoboda reports on the Chapter 9 bankruptcy for the station, appears on *The Craig Fahle Show* and runs the website nextchapterdetroit.com. Many of the lessons Svoboda teaches her politics/mass media class could have illustrations pulled from any given workday.

Last semester, her students learned about broadcast media history and policy before visiting the station. While there, they sat where Fahle has interviewed Governor Rick Snyder, Detroit Emergency Manager Kevyn Orr, U.S. Attorney Barbara McQuade, cabinet officials, numerous state and

local politicians, and several notable actors, musicians, writers, scientists, and other key figures in Detroit and Southeast Michigan.

Fahle recounted his career, starting with his time as an intern at WDET in the early 1990s and continuing through his time in Lansing with the Michigan Public Radio Network. He talked about the dynamics in Lansing for someone new to state politics and how he learned to get to know legislators, figure out if they were in politics "for the right or wrong reasons," and find sources he could trust.

One of the challenges of the modern era, Fahle told the students, is figuring out best practices for social media. His show — and WDET — use social media for outreach, communication and responding to listeners, and Fahle has seen politicians and policymakers struggle in the same way that media members have with learning to maximize use of the newer technologies. He had a clear influence on the students, and one in particular — in response to a final exam question — wrote that he wanted to have a news-policy radio show in the future.

Sandra Svoboda earned her M.P.A. with the Department of Political Science at Wayne State University. She covers the Detroit bankruptcy for WDET, Detroit's public radio station (wdet.org and 101.9 FM) and the station's website, nextchapterdetroit.com.

Grant award and job for Gayle Alberda



Gayle Alberda

Gayle Alberda, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Political Science, has received a Horowitz Foundation Grant Award for Social Policy Research. The award will fund the research on Alberda's dissertation, which analyzes the effect of early voting laws on turnout in local elections. In the United States, local

governments are considered the bedrocks of American democracy, yet turnout is abysmal in local elections. Early voting provides citizens with increased flexibility and convenience, and may work to increase turnout. However, it has also been extremely controversial in recent years, becoming the focus of much policy debate and research.

Up to this point, the vast majority of research has been on national elections, where citizens receive significant exposure to political news, advertising and other information. It is not yet clear, however, if early voting works to get citizens engaged at the local level, where

information and engagement are low. Does early voting encourage voters to participate? That is the key question Alberda addresses.

Alberda will use a large data set — voter lists in Ohio over the past decade — to answer this important question. She will compare turnout rates in cities with early voting to those without it; there is also a temporal dimension in that Ohio adopted early voting during the period she studies. It is crucial to understand the factors that may increase turnout in local elections, and Alberda's research will help move understanding forward in this area.

In 2012, Alberda received a Warren E. Miller Fellowship from the University of Michigan Institute for Social Research. These fellowship awards support young scholars and innovative social science research.

Alberda has accepted a two-year appointment as Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa.

Sabbatical at the University of California, Berkeley, for Professor Brad Roth



Brad Roth

Dr. Brad Roth, Professor of Political Science and Law, spent his winter 2014 sabbatical as a Visiting Scholar at the Center for the Study of Law and Society at the University of California, Berkeley, where he worked on several scholarly projects, including a volume on treaties in U.S. law (contracted to Cambridge University Press) that he is co-editing with Wayne Law professors Gregory Fox and Paul Dubinsky. The volume's authors and editors, leading scholars in U.S. foreign relations law, grapple with the paradox that treaties are constitutionally designated as part of the "supreme law of the land," and yet seldom function that way in the practice of U.S. courts. Roth also continued his work on the jurisprudence of international criminal justice, the topic of his recent article in the *Arizona Journal of International and Comparative Law*, "Just Outcomes, Overreaching Rationales: How International Criminal Law's Achievements

Augur Flawed Responses to Political Violence."

As one of three American Branch representatives on the International Law Association's (ILA) Research Committee on Recognition/Non-Recognition of States and Governments, Roth addressed the current Ukraine crisis in a presentation at the ILA's biennial meeting in Washington, D.C. last April. His continuing work on the formation and dissolution of states includes a forthcoming article on legal aspects of the breakup of Yugoslavia, a Croatian-language translation of which will appear in the *Croatian Political Science Review*. In May, Roth presented this article at a meeting of Croatian scholars at the political science faculty of the University of Zagreb. He also delivered lectures on related topics at the University of Zadar (Croatia), as well as at two of continental Europe's leading international law faculties: the University of Amsterdam and Leiden University (Netherlands).

State Senator Steve Bieda — Political Science alumnus



Steve Bieda

Steve Bieda is a lifelong resident of Macomb County. Raised in Warren, he attended Cousino High School and received both his bachelor's in public affairs and master's of public administration from the Department of Political Science at Wayne State University. He later earned a juris doctorate from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law, as well as a master's of tax law from Wayne State University Law School.

Bieda currently serves as state senator for Michigan's Ninth District. When he was first elected state representative for Michigan's 25th District in 2002, he got right to work for the people of Macomb County and Michigan. He sponsored more than 30 public acts on subjects ranging from the state's tax structure to consumer protection, economic development and judicial reform. He authored the Legal Defense Fund Reporting Act, the only major piece of ethics reform to reach the governor's desk in a decade, and fought for it over several legislative sessions until it became law. Bieda supported comprehensive revisions to Michigan's bottle-deposit law to stop the flow of fraudulent containers from out of state, saving Michigan millions of dollars. Not one to shrink from a challenge, he was a driving force behind the replacement of the out-

of-date Single Business Tax, replacing it with legislation that provided tax credits and incentives for businesses to grow and invest in Michigan while maintaining the flow of needed revenue. His expertise in financial management resulted in his appointment to the financial management review teams for the cities of Ecorse and River Rouge. Working closely with members of the legislative and executive branch, including the state treasurer and the governor, Bieda's record reflects the consistent pursuit of cleaner government, a cleaner environment and a stronger economy for the state of Michigan.

Prior to his service in the state legislature, Bieda worked as director of labor relations in the city of Warren and senior policy analyst for Michigan's House of Representatives. Bieda also enjoys the distinction of being the only living Michiganian to design a coin for the U.S. Mint, the reverse of the United States Olympic Half Dollar issued in 1992. He was chairman for the Thomas Edison Silver Dollar Project, commemorating the 125th anniversary of the invention of the light bulb. In addition, Bieda had the honor of acting as fundraiser and grant writer for the Michigan Labor Legacy Project, resulting in the largest monument commemorating the labor movement in the United States, "Transcending," which can be seen on the Detroit riverfront in Hart Plaza.

The Department of Political Science congratulates Sen. Bieda on his exemplary career.

Professor Frederic Pearson's work with conflict resolution



Frederic Pearson

Dr. Frederic Pearson, Professor of Political Science and Director of the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies, recently returned from presenting a workshop, under USAID sponsorship, in Jerusalem on peaceful reconciliation and negotiation to a joint group of Palestinian and Israeli professionals dealing with war trauma — psychologists, social workers, teachers and others. He discussed the results of his new

book, co-authored with Dr. Nahla Hamdan, *Arab Approaches to Conflict Resolution* (Routledge, 2014), at the meeting. Reconciliation among warring parties will be the theme of Pearson's ongoing applied research this coming year in honor of the 50th anniversary of the Center for Peace and Conflict Studies. He also is taking part in a joint project studying the effects of language division on international and civil conflict behavior in places such as Ukraine, as well as planning a conference in 2015 in Macedonia on inter-organizational learning in peace-making interventions.

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