Peaceful Greetings!

I am very pleased to share a number of exciting developments and accomplishments with our friends on campus and around the world. The Bobst Center has had a productive and successful year, featuring many new events and programs. Some key highlights include a workshop on “The Psychology of Authoritarian Rule,” led by Princeton professors Liz Nugent and Rory Truex, and the expansion of long-term international visitors we host at the Center. We were also happy to bring experts from around the world to campus who spoke on a variety of topics, including, for example, contemporary protests in Iran; the rise of the radical right in Europe; immigrant integration; and authoritarianism in Egypt.

Our collaboration with the American University of Beirut (AUB) continues to thrive. Princeton professors Chris Achen and Mark Beissinger visited AUB to share their research and expertise, and we hosted several events featuring AUB faculty at Bobst Hall.

We are also very pleased to support the terrific and wide-ranging work of Princeton graduate students. Funding from the Bobst Center facilitated their research in countries in the Middle East, Europe, Africa, and beyond.

This newsletter features many of these and other activities, so please have a look! Thank you for your interest in the Bobst Center.

Rafaela Dancygier
Professor of Politics and Public and International Affairs
Mission and History

The Mamdouha S. Bobst Center for Peace and Justice was the brainchild of the late Mrs. Mamdouha S. Bobst (widow of Elmer Holmes Bobst) who, together with her husband, promoted philanthropy in the areas of education, health research and human rights. A think tank and research support entity affiliated with the Princeton University Department of Politics, the Center’s mission is “to advance the cause of peace, mutual understanding, respect for all ethnic traditions and religious faiths, and justice, both within countries and across national borders.” The activities of the Bobst Center therefore focus on the study of peace and justice. The Center sponsors, on its own and jointly with other departments and programs, panel discussions, conferences, seminars and workshops directed toward issues such as conflict and reconciliation, cultural and religious dynamics, nationalism, regime stability and change, pathways for political self-expression, and more.

The Center also serves as an intellectual hub for scholars and policymakers to exchange ideas and interact with one another. A special feature of the Bobst Center for Peace and Justice is its collaboration with the American University of Beirut, Lebanon, which provides fertile ground for faculty and graduate student exchanges, summer teaching opportunities for Princeton faculty at the AUB, and research on issues linked to peace and political life in the Arab World.
Executive Committee

The main directive of the Bobst Center Executive Committee is to advise and support the Director and the Center’s mission. We are grateful for their service and value their counsel.

Mark Beissinger  Henry W. Putnam Professor of Politics
Co-Director, Workshop on Post-Communist Politics
Comparative politics, Russian politics, social movements and revolutions

Carles Boix  Robert Garrett Professor of Politics and Public and International Affairs
Comparative politics, political economy, democracy

Tali Mendelberg  John Work Garrett Professor of Politics
Director, Program on Inequality
American politics, inequality, race and identity

Helen Milner  B.C. Forbes Professor of Politics and Public and International Affairs
Director, Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance
International Relations, international political economy, globalization

Alan Patten  Howard Harrison and Gabrielle Snyder Beck Professor of Politics
Chair, Department of Politics
Political theory, democratic theory, multiculturalism

Grigore Pop-Eleches  Professor of Politics and Public and International Affairs
Co-Director, Workshop on Post-Communist Politics
Comparative politics, Eastern European politics, political behavior

Amaney Jamal  Edwards S. Sanford Professor of Politics and Public and International Affairs
Dean, SPIA; Director, Bobst-AUB Collaborative Initiative and Workshop on Arab Political Development
Comparative politics, Middle East politics, political behavior

Administrative Staff

Michelle Anderson  Program Manager

Gordan Arsenoff  Senior Research Specialist

Ahra Wu  Senior Research Specialist

Christy Govantes  Program Manager, Bobst-AUB Collaborative Initiative and Workshop on Arab Political Development

Jeremy Roth  Senior Research Specialist
Honors and Awards

The Bobst Center for Peace and Justice celebrates the recognition that our many talented scholars of every stage receive from other organizations in their fields of study. Below are a few of the honors.

**Ezra Suleiman**, IBM Professor in International Studies and Professor of Politics, retired after many years of committed teaching and scholarship at Princeton.

**Carolyn Barnett**, Politics PhD, was awarded the APSA Middle East and North Africa section’s Best Dissertation Award, for her work, “Whose Modernity? Revolution and the Rights of Woman.”

**Rafaela Dancygier**, Bobst Director and Professor of Politics and Public and International Affairs, was elected to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences, whose members were chosen based on their excellence, innovation, leadership and accomplishments.

**Stephanie Chan**, Politics PhD, won the APSA Race, Ethnicity, and Politics Section Award. Her dissertation “Creative Citizenship: The Impacts of Radicalized Incorporation on Political Participation,” is one of two theses to receive this award.

**Leonard Wantchekon**, James Madison Professor of Political Economy and Professor of Politics and International Affairs, was awarded the Global Economy Prize 2023 in Economics, for his commitment to developing Africa.

**Carissa Tudor**, Politics PhD, received the Walter Dean Burnham Award for Best Dissertation in History and Politics from APSA. Her dissertation is titled, “Whose Modernity? Revolution and the Rights of Woman.”

**Mark Beissinger**, Henry W. Putnam Professor of Politics and Director of Graduate Studies. Mark’s book, *The Revolutionary City*, was named the co-winner of APSA’s Gregory Luebbert Prize for the Best Book in Comparative Politics.

**Jey Alizade**, Politics PhD candidate, won the Charlotte Elizabeth Procter Honorific Fellowship, a university-wide competitive fellowship awarded to graduate students who show “outstanding performance and professional promise.”

**Tali Mendelberg**, John Work Garrett Professor of Politics and Director of the Program on Inequality, was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation for 2023, in the field of Political Science.

**Zenobia Chan**, Politics PhD candidate, was one of three conference participants to receive the 2022 Jimmy Carter Award for Best Paper on U.S.-China Relations and Chinese Foreign Policy for her paper, “Affluence without Influence? The Inducement Dilemma in Economic Statecraft.”

**Tanushree Goyal**, Assistant Professor of Politics and International Affairs, was awarded the Juan Linz Prize for Best Dissertation in the Comparative Study of Democracy and Autocracy. Her thesis is titled, “Representation from Below: How Women Mobilize Inside Parties.”

**Tali Mendelberg**, John Work Garrett Professor of Politics and Director of the Program on Inequality, was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation for 2023, in the field of Political Science.
Graduate Research Support

The Bobst Center provides dissertation and pre-dissertation funding to help facilitate graduate student training and research. Successful grant recipients have submitted proposals that are rigorous in their intellectual merit and research designs.

The Bobst Center, along with the Center for the Study of Democratic Politics (CSDP) and the Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance (NCGG), also supports the Multi-Center Graduate Grant Program to provide Princeton Politics graduate students awards of up to $15,000 to support larger or more ambitious research projects. Our most recent recipients are highlighted below.

**Jey Alizade**  Spring 2023 Multi-Center Graduate Grant & Bobst Dissertation Grant

Jey Alizade studies how crime and extremism affect party strategy and elections in advanced democracies. He also does research on the consequences of immigration for representation and political competition in Europe. Jey will use the Bobst grant to conduct an original survey that will be administered to a sample of German residents. The Multi-Center Grant will help to expand upon this survey and to conduct interviews with both left-wing and right-wing politicians in Berlin.

**Gregory Amusu**  Spring 2023 Bobst Dissertation Grant

Gregory’s research considers the emergence and dissolution of sub-national (ethnic) territorial autonomy agreements under authoritarian regimes and the long-term effects of territorial autonomy on ethnic minority development. He plans to use Bobst grant funding to support fieldwork in Vietnam and France. This will include archival research in both countries and local interviews in previously autonomous zones of Vietnam.

**Beatriz Barros**  Fall 2022 Bobst Dissertation Grant

Beatriz’s dissertation seeks to explain the pervasiveness of unfinished public infrastructure projects in Latin America and its consequences for trust in government. She is using her Bobst funding to field a methodologically innovative nested conjoint experiment with a panel of 1500 Brazilian adults. The experiment tests the policy feedback effects of abandoned implementation on public support for local health infrastructure projects.

**Perry Carter**  Spring 2022 Multi-Center Graduate Grant & Bobst Dissertation Grant

Perry’s dissertation examines the causes and consequences of historical territorial losses for political development. Perry is using the Multi-Center Grant to conduct a novel survey experiment in Armenia that combines a natural experiment with recent advances in social network measurement to causally identify the effects of social exposure to territorial losses on political behavior. In addition, the dissertation grant helps support the digitization and computational analysis of a large corpus of archival texts written in Georgian.

**Dahyun Choi**  Spring 2023 Bobst Dissertation Grant

Dahyun’s work focuses on the impact of information provided by international organizations, specifically with respect to business interests and environmental organizations. With the help of the Bobst grant, her research will include the use of original data on policy proposals to evaluate whether and how carbon-intensive firms with anti-regulation incentives rely on international consensus in pursuit of deregulation.

**Yingjie Fan**  Fall 2022 Bobst Dissertation Grant

Yingjie’s work seeks to answer questions about the role that juries play in an authoritarian context, specifically in places like Russia, China, and Cuba. Bobst grant funds will be used to recruit 1000 participants in a survey embedded with a vignette experiment to test whether participants will view judicial opinions with juror participation more favorably than judicial opinions without.
Alexander F. Gazmararian  Fall 2022 Pre-Dissertation Grant &  Spring 2023 Multi-Center Graduate Grant

Alexander's dissertation examines how political preferences form and change. This research develops theories to explain how voters understand and respond to economic disruption, with a substantive focus on climate policy and the energy transition. He is using the Bobst Pre-Dissertation Grant to conduct an innovative experiment to test a new argument about how economic self-interest and social identity interact to influence policy preferences. The Multi-Center Grant supports a parallel study that tests a theory of how people attribute blame for local economic decline and the political consequences of citizens’ perceptions.

Ze Han  Spring 2023 Multi-Center Graduate Grant

Ze’s work aims to investigate whether Chinese Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) results in favorable views of China within communities where such investments occur. The awarded Multi-Center Grant will be used to conduct focus-group interviews in four US towns - Moraine, OH, San Jose, CA, Hancock, IN and Lander, NV.

Rikio Inouye  Spring 2023 Bobst Dissertation Grant

Rikio’s research examines how race and racial perceptions shape foreign policy support, foreign policymaking, and security considerations. His dissertation work aims to show how security considerations are both shaped by and potentially endogenous to identity-based prejudice and bias. The Bobst grant will help to fund a series of surveys to test the hypothesis that perceived similarity on race or religion will create a sense of in-group affinity, and thus a greater desire to defend and ally.

Lewis Krashinsky  Spring 2022 Multi-Center Graduate Grant &  Bobst Dissertation Grant

Lewis Krashinsky’s dissertation analyzes white working-class voting patterns in Canada and the United States. Funding from the Multi-Center Grant supports the fielding of an original survey and a conjoint experiment to sample over 7,000 Americans and Canadians. Bobst funding will support further qualitative fieldwork in Windsor, Ontario and Macomb County, Michigan.

Shourya Sen  Spring 2023 Bobst Dissertation Grant

Shourya studies authoritarian politics and the political economy of Southeast Asia. His dissertation work aims to provide and apply an analytic framework for understanding how patterns of social conflict constrain authoritarian regimes. His Bobst funding will help to support travel to Thailand and Laos, where he will conduct archival research.

Tiffany Simon  Fall 2022 Bobst Dissertation Grant

Tiffany’s dissertation examines the rise of policies aimed at creating happiness and well-being among citizens and residents in authoritarian states, and how these policies impact political behavior and attitudes. She is using her funding to test how positive affect causally impacts political behavior compared to cognitive considerations of government performance in an experiment in the United Arab Emirates.

Lina Skoglund  Spring 2022 Bobst Dissertation Grant

Lina’s dissertation examines rural backlash against environmental policy. Lina is using her Bobst grant to conduct interviews with stakeholders (local politicians, scientists, civil servants, farmers, hunters) to better understand the conflict between locals and the state and to explore how wildlife policy shapes local politics. The grant allows her to examine how opponents made a link between their perception of a rural/urban cleavage and their criticism of democratic decision-making processes.
**Yun (Nancy) Tang**  Spring 2023 Bobst Dissertation Grant

Against the backdrop of LGBTQ movements and their political environments in both Singapore and China, Nancy’s work considers questions about how the two movements engage in legal mobilization for LGBTQ advocacy. Her Bobst funding will go towards in-depth fieldwork and interviews in Singapore, specifically interviews with LGBTQ NGOs and activists.

**Thomas Tichelbaecker**  Spring 2022 Bobst Dissertation Grant

Thomas is using his Bobst Dissertation Grant to study the causes and consequences of changing local party organizations. Specifically, his research examines the conditions under which local party leaders have incentives to diversify and strengthen local party organizations in Germany. He is conducting archival research in German party archives to locate, collect, and digitize internal party reports, membership counts, and candidate lists from 1960 onward.

**Jacob Tucker**  Spring 2023 Multi-Center Graduate Grant

Jacob studies state propaganda, specifically in Russia and in relation to the Ukraine war. In his dissertation work he seeks answers to questions about the endurance and persuasiveness of state propaganda. Jacob will use the Multi-Center Grant funds to build and market an artificial intelligence-driven news aggregator, to be launched in Russia.

**Maria José Valverde**  Spring 2023 Bobst Dissertation Grant

As part of her dissertation research, Maria José is currently analyzing the causes and consequences of the rise of NGOs against sexual and reproductive rights in international organizations. She has been awarded a Bobst Dissertation Grant to conduct interviews for this project.

**Hani Warith**  Spring 2023 Bobst Dissertation Grant

Hani’s research focuses on state formation, political cleavage formation, and identity in the postcolonial Middle East. His dissertation explores how the expansion of secular schooling creates enduring political cleavages and divides in Tunisia and Morocco. He will utilize Bobst funding to support archival work in Nantes, France and Tunis, Tunisia.

**Yuhan Zheng**  Spring 2023 Bobst Pre-Dissertation Grant

Yuhan’s work focuses on income inequality at the local and state levels. Her proposed project seeks to investigate individual preferences towards inequality and redistribution at the local and national levels in Brazil. The Bobst Pre-Dissertation Grant will be used to purchase and process data and to conduct fieldwork in Brazil.
The Bobst Center completed a second successful year with the Princeton Dissertation Scholars Program. The initiative provides opportunities for academic and professional growth to doctoral students belonging to historically underrepresented groups that are enrolled in programs outside of Princeton which do not offer similar funding opportunities. In February, the Bobst Center hosted the Dissertation Scholars Workshop, providing recipients with the opportunity to present and receive feedback on their dissertation research.

**Tolulope Babalola**  
*University of Southern California*  
Project Title: Cultural Heterogeneity, Colonialism, and Black Americans’ Political Behavior and Attitudes  
Tolulope Babalola moved from Nigeria to the United States in 2006. Tolulope is currently a fourth-year doctoral candidate at the University of Southern California in the Department of Political Science and International Relations. His subfields are American Politics and Comparative Politics. Tolulope is primarily interested in Black ethnic politics in the United States and its relationship with European colonial legacies. Finally, his secondary research interest examines how punitiveness and political representation shape racial and criminal (in)justice policies.

**Rongbo Jin**  
*University of Arizona*  
Project Title: Can correcting misperception reduce Americans’ support for political violence?  
Rongbo Jin is a PhD candidate in the School of Government and Public Policy at the University of Arizona. His research focuses on political psychology, public opinion, and political behavior in American politics, particularly on affective polarization, partisanship, and ideology. His work has been published or is forthcoming at the *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* and *Politics and Life Sciences*. His dissertation investigates whether correcting misperceptions can reduce Americans’ support for political violence. Using a survey experiment, this project will test whether high/low source credibility, in-party/out-party slanted media sources, and political incivility will affect the impact of corrections.

**Hyein Ko**  
*University of Iowa*  
Project Title: A Picture’s Worth: Visual Framing, Social Media, and Protest Perceptions  
Hyein’s research interests include understanding the politics of the pandemic, social movements, and political communication by using computational methods, including text as data and image as data. Her dissertation draws on the political communication literature and common, yet understudied, photographic strategies to examine the way that images are presented or visually framed through social media and how these pictorial choices can impact political behavior. Her project utilizes a large collection of images and texts as well as machine learning. In addition, with the Princeton Dissertation Scholars Grant, she will field a novel survey experiment among US residents.

**James Steur**  
*University of Illinois*  
Project Title: The Positive Consequences of Sadness for Democratic Citizenship: Information Processing & Prosocial Support in the Context of the Criminal Justice System  
James Steur is a PhD candidate in political science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His current research agenda examines the role of sadness on decision-making, attention, and information processing in political contexts. As a Princeton Dissertation Scholar, James explores the counterintuitive ways that experiencing sadness can promote greater peace and justice around policing in the United States. While sadness may be an uncomfortable emotion to experience, it also increases openness to counter-attitudinal information and can reduce cognitive biases. He plans to run a block randomized survey experiment with Black and White participants to identify when and how individuals reconsider firmly held attitudes toward police reform.

**Malika Talgatova**  
*University of California San Diego*  
Project Title: Causes of Targeted Repression of the Media in Autocracies: Evidence from Russia  
Malika’s research interests lie between human rights and political violence, with a focus on authoritarian regimes, repression in autocracies, and media control and propaganda. Her dissertation research investigates causes and consequences of political repression of independent media. She collects novel data on journalists affiliated with independent media and all attacks on journalists and media workers in Russia. The project combines formal theory with data science techniques and causal inference methods to understand the interaction between independent media and repressive governments. Funding from the Bobst Center has enabled Malika to undertake large-scale hand coding of text data produced by independent media. These empirical data are essential in identifying journalist attributes which put them at risk of government repression and shape the nature of the attacks.
Bobst Center Programming

Ezra Suleiman Retirement Event
The Bobst Center had the pleasure of hosting an event to celebrate the retirement of Ezra Suleiman, IBM Professor in International Studies & Professor of Politics, Emeritus. It was well attended by colleagues and friends, including former students from abroad, that traveled to celebrate the occasion.

Psychology of Authoritarian Rule
Hosted by Rory Truex and Liz Nugent, the conference on the Psychology of Authoritarian Rule, sought to bring together a group of junior and senior scholars who work on issues of authoritarianism, political psychology, and state-society relations. During this two-day conference held in December, junior scholars received critical feedback on their research. Attendees included Kevin Arceneaux (Sciences Po), Ashley Blum (MIT), Katie Clayton (Stanford), Dan Corstange (Columbia), Chipo Dendere (Wellesley), James Druckman (Northwestern), Jane Esberg (University of Pennsylvania), Tim Frye (Columbia), Heifeng Huang (UC Merced), John Jost (NYU), Joshua Kertzer (Harvard), Betsy Levy Paluck (Princeton), Usman Liaquat (NYU), Wayde Marsh (Washington University), Dan Mattingly (Yale), Gwyneth McClendon (NYU), Ameni Mehrez (CEU), Tali Mendelberg (Princeton), Marika Miner (UC Davis), Eduardo Rivera Pichardo (NYU), Graeme Robertson (UNC), Bryn Rosenfeld (Cornell), Xiaoxiao Shen (Princeton), Milan Svolik (Yale), Dan Treisman (UCLA), Joseph Wright (Penn State), and Lauren Young (UC Davis).

Studying Contemporary European Politics: Challenges and Opportunities
In March, the Bobst Center hosted Studying Contemporary European Politics: Challenges and Opportunities, a roundtable discussion with speakers Tarik Abou-Chadi (University of Oxford), Dominik Hangartner (ETH Zurich) and Judith Spirig (University College London). These experts discussed key issues facing European politics and society and shared insights from their experiences researching topics related to party politics, immigration, discrimination, and field work. The event was cosponsored by the Program in Contemporary European Politics and Society, the EU Program at Princeton and the Liechtenstein Institute.

Panels on the Middle East
The Bobst Center also co-sponsored two speaking engagements in April 2023. The first, a Panel on Protest in Iran, included panelists Sahar Aziz (Visiting Professor), Behrooz Ghamari-Tabrizi (Department of Near Eastern Studies) and Fatemeh Shams (University of Pennsylvania) was cosponsored by the Center for Iran and Persian Gulf Studies. The second, titled Into the Hands of the Soldiers: Authoritarianism and Populist Uprisings in Egypt, featured David Kirkpatrick, former New York Times reporter, and was moderated by Sahar Aziz.

Program on Inequality
The Program on Inequality is led by Director, Tali Mendelberg, John Work Garrett Professor of Politics. This year the Program on Inequality helped sponsor the American Political Science Association’s Women’s Mentoring Workshop, which held information and small group sessions pairing rising scholars with a “pod” of their peers and faculty mentors in their subfield. Tali also published studies on race and poverty in the American Political Science Review and the Journal of Politics, both co-authored with Elizabeth Mitchell Elder, former researcher with the Program on Inequality.

Workshop on Arab Political Development
The Workshop on Arab Political Development is directed by Dean Amaney Jamal and managed by Christy Govantes. WAPD sponsors public lectures by faculty, scholars, and policy makers who study issues of the Middle East and North Africa. WAPD also provides graduate students and faculty with a forum to present their research projects. We were especially pleased to host Jillian Schwedler, Ellen Lust and Moulay Hicham Alaoui at Princeton. Below are the lectures supported by WAPD this year:

• Mohammad Isaqzadeh, “Reassessing the Causal Relationship between Religiosity and Political Violence: Evidence from Afghanistan”

• Ghanim Alnajjar, Samir R. Abu-Rumman, “What’s Beyond the numbers in Kuwaiti Elections?”
• Amen Mehrez, “Exploring Political Ideologies in the Arab World: The Case of Post-Revolution Tunisia”
• Jillian Schwedler, Hunter College, “Protesting Jordan, Geographies of Power and Dissent”
• Ellen Lust, University of Gothenburg, “Everyday Choices: The Role of Competing Authorities and Social Institutions in Politics and Development”
• Tiffany Simon, “Policies of Happiness and Citizen Response in the Gulf”
• Hani Warith, “Fellahin into Frenchmen: Contestation, Education, and (Autocratic) Consolidation in the Postcolonial World”
• Yasmina Abouuzzohour, “What Drives Public Trust in the Military in Non-Democracies?”
• Moulay Hicham Alaoui, an alumnus of SPIA, gave a talk on his recent book, *Pacted Democracy in the Middle East; Tunisia and Egypt in Comparative Perspective*.

**Conversations About Peace Lecture Series** is a project coordinated by Daniel Kurtzer, former Ambassador to Egypt and Israel, and Amaney Jamal, to bring together representatives of both sides of the Israeli-Palestinian struggle in a way that emphasizes efforts towards peaceful coexistence. In March, we hosted a book discussion on, *The One State Reality: What is Israel/Palestine?* Ambassador Kurtzer moderated the discussion with co-editors, Michal Barnett, Nathan Brown and Shibley Telhami. Dean Amaney Jamal chaired the panel.

**WAPD Visiting Research Fellows**

**Samir Abu-Rumman** Samir is the supervisor of “World of Opinions” in Kuwait, Jordan, and the U.S., and a research consultant to the United Mission for Relief & Development (UMR) in Washington DC. We enjoyed having Samir participate in our WAPD and Bobst activities.

**Lutf Ali Sultani** We look forward to hosting, jointly with SPIA, Lutf Ali Sultani, who is a fellow working with the Afghan Policy lab. Ali will be with us as a Professional Specialist for the 2023-2024 academic year.

**Bobst-AUB Collaborative Initiative**

The Bobst-AUB Collaborative Initiative (AUB) is directed by Dean Amaney Jamal and managed by Christy Govantes. Our colleagues at AUB, Dean Fares Dahdah, Nisreen Salti and Lara Kechichian, are a vital part of the team and enable the Collaboration to expand and thrive. The partnership takes on many forms including research support, visiting professorships, graduate student exchanges, joint workshops, and conferences. We have been thrilled to return to in-person events and faculty exchanges this year.

We are very pleased to have a new program coordinator at AUB. We were sad to say good-bye to Nadine Mezher, but we are very excited to be working with Lara Kechichian. Lara comes to us with a background in editing and teaching. She holds a BA from Haigazian University and a MA in Linguistics from AUB. She is a terrific addition to our Bobst-AUB team.

**Conversations From Beirut** is a faculty panel engaging professors from Princeton and AUB. The professors discuss current topics and give expert analyses on real-time developments and events on the ground in Lebanon. This event is held each semester.

Nisreen Salti, AUB and Layna Mosley, Princeton, “The Financial Situation and Debt Crisis in Lebanon”

Joseph Bahout and Salam Fayyad, “The domestic implications for Lebanon of the regional rehabilitation of Assad's Syria, and the Saudi-Iranian rapprochement”
Research Grants
The Collaboration provides funding opportunities for faculty at AUB to further pursue their research. This year we were pleased to have supported the following projects:

- **Nadine Yamout**, “Public Debt Sustainability and Fiscal Space in the Arab Region: A DSGE Approach”
- **Rima Majed**, “Sectarian Neoliberalism and the Challenges of Revolutionary Change in Lebanon’s Consociational Democracies”
- **Tamer Amin and Rabih El Mouhayar**, “Meeting the Language Challenge in Science and Mathematics Education in Lebanon”
- **Fatima Abu Salem** and **Shady Elbassuoni**, “Quantifying Biases in Arabic Word Embeddings: Case Studies in Gender Bias and Israeli-Arab Political Discourse Bias”
- **Rola Khishfe**, “Promoting Environmental Literacy”

Public Talks

**Muhammed Alp Tuncay**, “Delay Marriage and Marry Your Like: Did It Contribute to Income Inequality?”

**Nadine Yamout**, “Dutch Disease, Unemployment and Structural Change.”

**James Robinson**, “Economic and Political Crises and Nation Building.”
Panelists: Joseph Bahout, Mona Harb and Rosalie Berthier. Moderated by Ali Abboud

**Mark Beissinger**, “The Revolutionary City: Urbanization and the Global Transformation of Rebellion” Moderator, Jamil Mauawad Discussant, Mona Harb

**Christopher Achen**, “Democracy for Realists.” Discussant and Moderator, Rima Rassi

Summer Semester Teaching Program (AUB)
Christopher Achen taught a 3-week condensed course, PSPA 251 – Politics and Government: American Politics in the Age of Donald Trump. He enjoyed the students and met with faculty members at AUB. He took part in academic activities, gave a public talk, and visited a Palestinian Refugee camp in Bourj El Barajneh.

Bobst Sponsored Events

**Rethinking Lived Religion: Islam in South Asia**
This program was organized by post-doctoral fellows, Amanda Lanzillo (Society of Fellows and History) and Harini Kumar (M.S. Chadha Center for Global India and History) and was co-sponsored by the Bobst Center, the Program in South Asian Studies, the Department of Religion, and the Institute for the Transregional Study of the Contemporary Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia. Taking place in November of 2022, it featured an interdisciplinary roundtable and accompanying conversations, including scholars from both Princeton and outside institutions.

**Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom Conference**
The hybrid conference was held in November 2022, with attendees joining from across the country and Canada. In-person and online participants were treated to keynote presentations from Sofia Ali-Khan and Tamar Manasseh, workshops by a lineup of experts in interfaith and spiritual leadership, author meet-and-greets and book signings.

**Power, Inequality, Dissent Event Series**
Hosted by Divya Cherian (Assistant Professor, History) and Harini Kumar (Postdoctoral Research Associate, History and Chadha Center for Global India), this running event series entitled “Power, Inequality, Dissent,” was sponsored by the Center for Global India (CGI) and cosponsored by the Bobst Center.
Post-Doctoral Program

The Post-Doctoral Research Program is run by Professor Carles Boix, Robert Garrett Professor of Politics and International and Public Affairs. Offered jointly with the Department of Politics, post-doctoral research appointments are one-year positions designed for scholars of comparative politics with a special focus on empirical democratic theory and comparative institutions.

For the upcoming academic year, we will welcome two new scholars: Alessio Albarello (University of Rochester) studies comparative politics, with a focus on electoral behavior, democratic representation, policymaking processes, and applied methodology. Simone Paci (Columbia University) focuses on the comparative political economy of advanced industrial countries with topics ranging from tax enforcement, noncompliance, and income redistribution, to local fiscal politics.

Visiting Student Research Collaborators

In conjunction with the Liechtenstein Institute, the Bobst Center hosted two visiting student scholars this past academic year.

**Violeta Haas**  Spring 2023
Violeta Haas is a PhD candidate at Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. Her research interests lie at the intersection of comparative political behavior, the far right, policy feedback, LGBTQ+ rights and hate crimes.

**Marc Hvidkjær**  Spring 2023
Marc Hvidkjær is a Masters student at the University of Copenhagen, where he studies Political Science. Marc’s research interests lie in welfare state development, the politics of housing, redistributive attitudes and the interplay of markets and states.

**Ameni Mehrez**  2022-2023
Supported by WAPD, Ameni Mehrez is a PhD candidate in comparative politics at Central European University (CEU). She participated in Bobst/WAPD events and gave a talk at Bobst Hall.

We will also be hosting the following three students for the 2023-2024 academic year.

**Dirck de Kleer**  Fall 2023
Dirck de Kleer is a PhD student in Political Science at Bocconi University, Milan. His research focuses on understanding how both citizens and politicians navigate the boundaries between moderate and extreme political behaviors and attitudes.

**Francesco Raffaelli**  Spring 2024
Francesco Raffaelli is currently pursuing a PhD in Politics at the University of Oxford. His research interests broadly span the fields of political behavior and comparative political economy, with a focus on West European countries.

**Tim Allinger**  Spring 2024
Tim Allinger is a PhD student in Political Science at Aarhus University (Denmark). He is studying when citizens perceive attacks on minority groups and their rights as legitimate and under which conditions this translates into intolerant behavior, such as hate crimes.
Undergraduate Student Support

The Mamdouha S. Bobst Center for Peace and Justice proudly supports Princeton University undergraduate student events that contribute to the Bobst mission. The following are some of the events that the Bobst Center funded in the past year:

**Black Student Union (BSU): Class of 2026 Socials**
The Black Student Union hosted a series of socials to welcome the Black Class of 2026 to Princeton. Each highlighted a different part of the African diaspora, collectively entitled *Black America Throughout the Decades*. Welcoming events were organized throughout the month of September.

**The Brazil Society: Brazil Presidential Election Watch Party**
The Brazil Society hosted an event to watch the runoffs for the Brazilian presidential elections, while enjoying local Brazilian snacks. The goal of the event was to engage students of all nationalities in Brazilian politics.

**Students for Prison and Education Reform (SPEAR): NJ Domestic Worker Bill of Rights: Campus and Community Learning**
SPEAR hosted a community-wide event to discuss the NJ Domestic Worker Bill of Rights. This legislation will help provide protections for day laborers, many of whom are migrants, who are often vulnerable in their negotiations with contractors. The conversation was conducted in both Spanish and English, with speakers from the National Day Laborer Organizing Network and local community partner, Solidaridad.

**Princeton Association of Black Women: Bougie Brunch**
The Bougie Brunch is a PABW tradition that unites the Black women at Princeton. In collaboration with The Standard and Our Health Matters, the event included a catered meal and a Black female speaker. The goal was to provide a space for Black women to gather and inspire one another.

**Alliance of Jewish Progressives: The Rise of Fascism and Antisemitism in America**
Dr. Michael Loadenthal, hosted by the Alliance of Jewish Progressives, spoke about his work on political violence and contextualized statistics on hate crimes. A political violence expert, Dr. Loadenthal provided insight into threats against the Jewish community from fascist actors. The event was open to all students and community members.

**Asian American Student Association Bone Marrow Drive**
The AASA partnered with the Asian New Life Foundation, a nonprofit based in New York City that regularly organizes bone marrow donor recruitment drives in the Asian American community, to host a drive at Princeton. The aim was to address common misunderstandings surrounding bone marrow donation, raise greater awareness around Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) health inequities at Princeton, and encourage AAPI Princetonians to register as bone marrow donors.

**Black Student Union Winter Dinner**
The Black ‘N Blessed is an annual winter event hosted by the BSU. With attendance of Black students and faculty, this event creates a space for the Black community on Princeton’s campus to give thanks for the holidays and provides an opportunity to dress up and connect socially.

**Center for Jewish Life (CJL) – Judaism Mental Health**
The CJL invited a Jewish therapist to come to Princeton and speak about intergenerational trauma, how Judaism has influenced her work in mental health, and how various Jewish practices can be used to emotionally support peers. The event also included a visit from some therapy dogs.
DoroBucci Fall 2022 Show

DoroBucci, Princeton University’s premier African dance company, presented “It’s A Family Reunion!” at Frist Theatre. The show highlighted the notions of family, friendship, unity, reflection, love and drama and elevated various styles of dance from all over the African continent and the Western hemisphere.

Center for Jewish Life: Inclusion Through Comedy and Storytelling

In honor of Jewish Disability Awareness and Inclusion Month in February, the Center for Jewish Life hosted an event to explore and celebrate the intersection of individuals who hold Jewish and disabled identities. Pamela Schuller, a renowned comedian whose work draws on her experience with Tourette’s syndrome and Judaism, presented an hour-long event, incorporating a stand-up set, stories from her career and life experience, and audience questions. She also hosted an improv workshop.

Princeton Association of Black Women (PABW): Black History Month Trivia

PABW hosted a Black Trivia Night to celebrate the end of Black History month. In partnership with the Generational African American Students Association (GAASA), the gathering was a celebration of black life and excellence that was open to the greater campus community, providing trivia, food and music for all.

Princeton Latinos: Status Report on Latinos Civil Rights

The Progressive Law Society and the Princeton Latin American Student Association (PLASA) hosted a lecture followed by an audience Q&A with renowned civil rights lawyer and MALDEF president Thomas Saenz. Mr. Saenz discussed the outlay for Latino civil rights in the areas of immigration, employment, and more in the era of a highly conservative federal bench.

Triple 8: Annual Triple 8 Dance Show

The annual Triple 8 Dance Show includes traditional Asian, martial arts, hip hop, and fusion show pieces, all choreographed and performed by student members. The mission is to use dance as an artistic means of exposing the Princeton community to East Asian culture.

Black Student Union Spring 2023 Royalty Gala

For this year's gala, BSU collaborated with the Black Arts Collective, presenting student artwork and emphasizing Black creativity. The Gala serves as a space for Black students to gather, regardless of ethnicity, to critically think about their relationship with one another and promote community.

Partnership Minyan: Shabbaton Shivyon

The Partnership Minyan, associated with the Center for Jewish Life, works to embrace both egalitarianism and halacha (commonly translated as Jewish law). Through Shabbaton Shivyon, they brought students from other college campuses to Princeton to practice and celebrate this form of Judaism. The event included meaningful and inclusive prayer services, engaging lectures from scholars in residence, social bonding activities, and productive conversations about campus experiences.

Princeton Reform Community (Kesher): Just For Us, Alex Edelman

The Princeton Reform Community invited Alex Edelman, a young, Jewish comedian to present his critically acclaimed show “Just for Us.” Edelman retells his experience at a white supremacist meeting held in New York City. Through his retelling of this story, Edelman expertly weaves in comedic vignettes that perfectly complement his discussion of antisemitism and racism. The show opened in New York and has toured in Washington, DC, London and Boston.

Progressive Law Society (PPLS): Litigating the Line: Ending Life without Parole for Late Adolescents

The Progressive Law Society hosted Mr. Ryan Schiff, of Elkins Law LLC, to speak at Princeton. Mr. Schiff is a Massachusetts lawyer seeking to advance the age of majority in juvenile criminal sentencing from 18 to 25 for various psychological, neurological, sociological, legal, and socioeconomic reasons. PPLS also hosted a roundtable discussion over dinner with Mr. Schiff.
Swara: Violin-Viola Duet Tour: Vittal Ramamurthy, VVS Murari, N Guruprasad, and KV Gopalakrishnan

Princeton Swara presented a violin-viola duet of Vittal Ramamurthy and VVS Murari, prodigal instrumentalists in the Carnatic (South Indian Classical) music space, in concert with kanjira player KV Gopalakrishnan and ghatam player Guruprasad. The event was a rich and innovative offering of music, presenting the unique combination of string and percussive music.

DoroBucci 2023 Spring Showcase

DoroBucci hosted its spring showcase of dance styles from across the African diaspora. The showcase also featured performances from Black Arts Company, High Steppers, and live African music. The second day featured the DoroBucci’s biennial dance competition, SAKATA, returns! African and Caribbean dance teams from UPenn, Harvard, Columbia, SUNY Albany, CCNY, and Northeastern battled it out in a winner-takes-all competition.

MASJID / MESIJ Fundraising Iftar

MASJID (Muslim Advocates for Social Justice) and MESIJ (Muslim Engineers for Social Impact and Justice) co-hosted an Iftar event to break the Ramadan fast. This fundraising event helped raise money towards the goal of providing solar-powered water filters to water scarce regions of the Muslim world, and student leaders spoke on the importance of the issue of water scarcity and sustainability. Hamza Farrukh, founder of Bondh-e-Shams, also spoke at the event.

Muslim Students Association (MSA): Fast-a-Thon

The MSA invited members of the Princeton community to experience Ramadan alongside their Muslim peers. The program began with a shared breakfast meal called Suhoor from 4:30-5:30 am. Community members were invited (but not required) to fast and all were invited to attend the end-of-fast dinner meal called Iftar. The evening meal was accompanied by a presentation on the meaning of fasting and student experiences with Ramadan on a college campus.

Muslim Students Association: Muslims Around the World

Muslims Around the World invited the Princeton community to learn about and celebrate Eid-al-Fitr, which marks the end of a month of day-time fasting. MSA hosted the event, open to the full campus community, offering local foods and information about regions that are home to large Muslim populations, including the Middle East, North Africa and Southeast Asia.

Princeton Conservation Society: Youth Climate & Conservation Summit

The Youth Climate & Conservation Summit was an international gathering of young environmental activists fighting for just solutions to environmental challenges around the globe. The two-day conference included representatives from India, Argentina, the Philippines, Morocco, Uganda, Colombia, Malaysia, Kenya, Brazil, Pakistan and the United States.

Princeton for North Korean Human Rights (PNKHR) Annual Conference

PNKHR holds an annual, intercollegiate North Korean Human Rights Conference, attracting hundreds of university students and drawing significant attention from the South Korean media. This year’s conference was titled: “Testimony as Truth: North Korean Defector Accounts.” Prominent scholars, journalists, activists, and experts were invited as both speakers and panelists for discussions with students.

African Students Association: Sankofa African Fashion Show

Sankofa is Princeton’s one and only African fashion show and cultural showcase. Every year, profits from the show are donated to charities supporting underrepresented communities, such as the Mezu International Foundation and the Khya Foundation. Sankofa features roughly 15 designers and over 30 student volunteers modeling their designs.
Orange represents focal areas for recent Bobst-funded research:

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2023