



*We Congratulate
the Recipients of the Following Awards*

*Val B. Fischer and Helen W. Fischer Award
Marguerite Elizabeth Rose*

*Political Science Department 2016 Jacob Van Ek Award
Genevieve Schneider ♦ Zhashki Strong*

*Faculty Mentor Award
Megan L. Shannon*

*Teacher of the Year Award
Jennifer Wolak*



“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.”

Eleanor Roosevelt



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University of Colorado Boulder

Department of Political Science

College of Arts and Sciences



Graduation Recognition Ceremony

Glenn Miller Ballroom, UMC

Friday, May 6th, 2016



Congratulations to Our 2016 Honors Graduates

Dear Graduates,

The faculty and staff of the Political Science Department at CU-Boulder congratulate you on completing your degree. We have enjoyed being a part of your journey here at CU and today we welcome your friends and family in celebrating your accomplishment. Whether you know it or not, they have been beside you every step of the way. Political science is designed for students who have curiosity and even a healthy skepticism about how we govern ourselves locally, nationally, and internationally. Political science students gain essential analytic thinking skills and an understanding that all of the challenges we face today are ultimately political in nature. We hope that, through your studies, you have gained an in-depth knowledge of politics and the tools necessary for effective political participation and leadership. On behalf of our faculty, we are proud of your accomplishments. It is now time for you to lead the way!

All the best,

David S. Brown

Professor and Chair, Department of Political Science

Ryan Bell

"The Inefficacious Electorate: Political Powerlessness and Vote Choice"
- Jennifer Fitzgerald

Spencer Richard Borison

"Leading on Energy Policy: The Growth of Renewable Portfolio Standards on the State Level" - Srinivas C. Parinandi

Aaron Michael Carpenter

"The Advantage of Wealth: How partisan success is affected by rising income inequality in the United States" - John Griffin

Walter Anderson Koch

"Labor Unions, Race and the Changing Face of the Post War Democratic Party"
- Kenneth Bickers

Joseph Javier Mabrey

"Voter Identification Laws and Their Effects on Voter Turnout" - John Griffin

Danielle Nicole Meltz

"Civil Society in the Arab Spring: Tunisia, Egypt, and Libya" - Michael Kanner

Nathaniel Lee Pressnall

"Voter Turnout: Ideologically Swayed? Exploring Effects of Ideologically Extreme Parties on OECD Countries" - Jennifer Fitzgerald

Marguerite Elizabeth Rose

"It's Not Easy Being Green: The Effectiveness of Environmental Provisions in Preferential Trade Agreements" - David Bearce

Alexander Steinbach

"Governmental Agricultural Policy and its affect on Population Health" - Steve Vanderheiden

Michaela Marie Weber

"An Explanation of the Enactment of Nonconsensual Pornography Policies within States: External and Internal Pressures" - Vanessa Baird

Ryan Henry Zehner

"Mutually Assured Survival: A Constructivist Analysis of Transnational Cultural Interactions and Their Influence on Nuclear Disarmament Initiatives" - Aysegul Aydin

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*Nikolas Peter Huebler
Hannah Michelle Janigian
Jake Thomas Johnson
George Theodore Jordan IV
Derek Todd Kaufman
Philip Kelly
Cory Richard Ketai
Blake Kirschbaum
Walter Anderson Koch
- cum laude
YuKa Kodani*
Madeline Nicole Kreyger
Daniel Steven Kyger
Anna Lue Lanford
Brooks Langdon
Alec S Lask
Sarah Lauce
Emily Laurance
Melissa Danielle Lauro
John Joseph Leary
Rachel Michelle Leonard
Mikaylah Talore Levenson
Olivia Susan Leyshock
Christopher John Liedtka
Matthew Benjamin Lindman
Amanda Lyons
Miller Lloyd Lyssikatos
Joseph Javier Mabrey*
- summa cum laude
Michael Ignatius Mahlie
Peter Daniel Mathys
William Francis McCreary
Danielle Nicole Meltz
- cum laude
Aubrey Nicole Menich
Jeiel Kojo Mensah
Suzanne Mooney Moss*

*Ammar A. Moussa
Jeffri Sue Mulder
Mhikal R.G. Munny
Troy Marcus Murphy
Kenny Van Nguyen
Emily Marie Normandin
Claire Andrea Ochsner
Patrick James O'Connor
Alec Ottevanger
James Anthony Pavlick
Grant Edward Peacock
Clint David Pflugrad
Paige Poorman
Nathaniel Lee Pressnall*
- summa cum laude
Alexander Martin Pronk
Brooke Katherine Pulliam
Madeline S Quartaro
Grant Renner
Marguerite Elizabeth Rose
- summa cum laude
Wyatt Porter Ryder
Kelsey Lynn Salisbury
Kelsey Santistevan
Cameron Brody Savitz
Julie Ann Schmidt
Christina Elizabeth Schwindt
Carly Silliman
Joseph Michael Soto
Lindsey Stearns
Alexander Steinbach
- magna cum laude
Antonella Scamarone Stiglich
Travis Max Tallent*
Rory Halsey Teehan
Laura Nicole Telles
Ryan Christopher Tierney*

*Thuc Thi Tran
Devan Morgan Ullman
Sarah Valdez
Dallin Erik Vanderhyden
Thomas Z Vesely
Nicholas Anderson Vidulich
Patricia Michelle Villalobos
Magdalen Mae Wagner
Natalie Lynn Walter*
Jackson Sofo Warrick
Michaela Marie Weber
- magna cum laude
Cheldon West
Brooke Nicole Williams
Emma Woodyard*
Sean Wraith
Jesse Zamora
Ryan Henry Zehner*
- summa cum laude
Zachary Zien*

**With Distinction*

*Opening Remarks David S. Brown
Chair, Department of Political Science
Commencement Address Marcus Isom
Political Science Alumnus
Presentation for Teacher of Year Award..... David S. Brown
Chair, Department of Political Science
Presentation of Faculty Mentor Award..... Tim Passmore
Ph.D. Candidate
Presentation and Hooding of Ph.D. Recipients..... E. Scott Adler
Director of Graduate Studies
Presentation of M.A. Recipients..... E. Scott Adler
Director of Graduate Studies
Presentation of Undergraduate Awards..... David H. Bearce
Director of Undergraduate Studies
Presentation of Honors Graduates..... E. Scott Adler
Honors Program Director
Presentation of B.A. Recipients..... David H. Bearce
Director of Undergraduate Studies
Closing Remarks..... David S. Brown
Chair, Department of Political Science*

** Reception on the UMC Terrace Following the Ceremony **



Doctor of Philosophy

Adam F. Cayton

“Local Economies and National Politics: How Members of Congress Respond to Economic Crisis”

Chair – E. Scott Adler

Thomas Richard Cook

“Untested Membership: Reputation, Ambiguity and International Relations”

Chair – David H. Bearce

Cody Daniel Eldredge

“The Political Determinants of Sovereign Wealth Funds”

Chair – David H. Bearce

Sara L. Hagedorn

“Taking the Lead: Congressional Staffers and Their Role in the Policy Process”

Chair – Kenneth Bickers

Leslie Ann Ochreiter

“Limits to Human Rights Protection: Regime Type and Asylum Recognition”

Chair – Moonhawk Kim

Lindsey Richardson

“Organizing for Political Empowerment? Explaining the Effects of Women’s Organizations on Women’s Political Participation in Guatemala”

Chair – Lorraine Bayard de Volo

Kim-Lee Tuxhorn

“Why do Some Trade Agreements Take Longer to Conclude than Others? An Explanation for PTA Bargaining Delay”

Chair – David H. Bearce

Alan Zarychta

“It Takes More than a Village: Governance & Public Services in Developing Countries”

Chair – Krister Andersson



Master of Arts

Dalton Dorr ♦ Roger Emmelhainz ♦ Anna Gray ♦ Erkan Gunes

Lorel Holsinger ♦ Christopher Jorde ♦ Stefani Langehennig

Carey Stapleton ♦ Martin Vieiro ♦ Josalyn Williams



Bachelor of Arts

Austin Albin

Daniel Timothy Allen

Blake Kipling Allen

Connor W. Allen

Stephanie Alonso

Yonas Gebremeskel Ambaye

Ethan Armitano

Emily Alexandra Atzen

Timothy Joseph Ayers

Zachary Thomas Barkley

Madison Paige Baron

Dennis Anthony Beam

Alayna Rene Bell

Alec Jonathon Berger

Cole Nelson Birdsey

Nicholas Guy Blasi

Spencer Richard Borison*

- summa cum laude

Matthew James Bour

Madeleine Bowen*

Ana Maria Andrea Reyes Bravo

Emily Ann Brocklander

Nicholas Allen Brown

Bianca Simone Buium

Rylee Price Burrows

Alex Campbell

Spencer William Carnes

Aaron Michael Carpenter*

- magna cum laude

Kelly Susan Cassidy

Emily Catbagan

Holden Chadwick

Adam Ross Charny

John Chorbajian

Kevin Conlin

Joshua Dylan Conroy

Amanda Nicole Cruz

Jeanie Marie Davidovich

Austin Hamilton Davis

Claire Michelle Delay

Brian DeMocker

Audrey Nicole Detmer

Paul Lennox Wolfe Donlon

Stephanie Van Dorn

Claire Canfield Duckett

Savanna L. Egalite

Sianna Iman Elmanouzi

Dylan Evans

Grant Fabian

Jonathan Coombs Fedyschyn

Jacob Everett Feinberg

John Edward Finch

Austin Fischer

Ryan James Frazier

Reghan Layne Gillman

Laura Katherine Gudvangen

Lauren Ashley Gulick

Lane Ray Hamilton

Nicole Rae Hanson

Brooke Marissa Lee Harris

Kenneth John Haveman

Gabrielle Nicole Hawkins

Samantha Kelley Hertzog

Ian Patrick Holloway

Benjamin Lance Howard

Stephen M. Howe