

# Beau Breslin

Joseph C. Palamountain Jr. Chair in Government  
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## Education

### UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

- Ph.D., Political Science; 1996
  - Major Field: Constitutional Theory
  - Minor Fields: American Politics, Political Theory
- M.A., Political Science; 1993
  - Major Field: Constitutional Theory
  - Minor Fields: American Politics, Political Theory

### BOSTON UNIVERSITY

- Graduate coursework in the Department of Political Science; 1989-1991
  - Major Field: American Constitutional Law
  - Minor Fields: American Politics, Political Theory

### HOBART COLLEGE

- B.A., 1988
  - Major: Political Science
  - Graduated with Honors in Political Science

## Professional Experience

### SKIDMORE COLLEGE

- Joseph C. Palamountain Jr. Chair in Government 2021 — present
- Dean of the Faculty/Vice President for Academic Affairs 2012 — 2018
- Dean of the Faculty 2011 — 2012
- Assistant Dean of the Faculty 2008 — 2011
- Director, First-Year Experience 2007 — 2011
- Professor of Political Science 2009 — present
- Associate Professor of Political Science 2004 — 2009
  - Chair 2005 — 2007
- Assistant Professor of Political Science 1998 — 2004
  - Pre-Law Advisor 1998 — 2004
  - Director, Law and Society Program 2001 — 2005

### HARVARD UNIVERSITY

- Collaborative on Academic Careers in Higher Education (COACHE) – Visiting Practitioner 2018 — 2019

### STOCKTON COLLEGE

- Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science 1996 — 1998

### UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

- Instructor, Department of Political Science 1993 — 1996
- Teaching Assistant 1992 — 1993

## **Administrative Roles and Accomplishments**

### ***Dean of the Faculty and Vice President for Academic Affairs (2011-2018)***

Skidmore's chief academic officer provides visionary leadership for the Academic Affairs division of the College (400+ faculty, 500+ employees, 40 direct reports). S/he/they oversee all academic departments and programs, the faculty, the Library, the Office of the Dean of Special Programs (primarily responsible for all summer programs), the Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery, the Registrar, the Office of the First-Year Experience, Off-Campus Study and Exchanges, the Higher Education Opportunity Program, the Office of Academic Advising, The College's Assessment office, Institutional Research, Sponsored Research, the Center for Leadership, Teaching, and Learning, the Student Academic Development Coordinator, the Institutional Safety office, the Campus Sustainability office, and several Associate Deans. The Operating Budget for Academic Affairs is roughly \$65 million. Skidmore's CAO partners with all offices on campus, including Admissions, Student Affairs, Finance and Administration, and Advancement. S/he/they also liaises with the entire Board of Trustees and sits on a dozen all-college committees, including the Institutional Policy and Planning Committee, the Committee on Educational Policies and Planning, the Assessment subcommittee of IPPC, and the Enrollment Management Committee. The CAO also works with the College's Advancement office to cultivate donors, participate in alumni events and admissions open houses, identify institutional priorities, and strategize about fundraising possibilities. Most importantly, perhaps, Skidmore's chief academic officer is the primary advisor to the college president.

Key accomplishments include:

- Led the College's overhaul of the entire General Education Curriculum
- Led the College's successful reaccreditation effort (Middle States).
- Partnered with President and other institutional leaders in creating the Strategic Plan (*Pathways to Excellence: The Plan for Skidmore College 2015-2025*).
- Hire 100+ tenure-line faculty, half of whom are faculty from underrepresented groups (<https://www.chronicle.com/article/A-Liberal-Arts-College-/231723>).
- Created "Just-In-Time Inclusive Hiring Program" that has become a national model.
- Increased a sense of inclusiveness and belonging for all colleagues in Academic Affairs.
- Increased the number of tenure track faculty by 18 (from 198 tenure lines in 2011 to 216 in 2018)
- Substantially increased resources for faculty-student research, faculty sabbatical enhancement awards, travel to read and rep.
- Initiated Associate Chair program to reduce workload of department/program chairs
- Allocated significant resources/joined national organizations to hire and retain faculty of color, including Consortium for Faculty Diversity (CFD), the National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity (NCFDD), University of Michigan Center for Research on Learning and Teaching (and especially the CRLT players).
- Led the design, program, and early construction of the College's Center for Integrated Sciences complex (a 175,000 sq. foot addition to our existing science building)
- Doubled external grant money to faculty/institution.
- Secured multiple million dollar grants from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations, The Teagle Foundation, the Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation, the Emerson Foundation, the Alden Trust, the National Science Foundation, the Henry Luce Foundation, and more.
- Increased the College's focus on data-driven decisionmaking.
- Strategic partner with Dean of Admissions and others on enrollment and financial aid strategies
- Founded the Center for Leadership, Teaching, and Learning
- Oversaw our initial foray into AASHE STARS rating system (received Silver rating)
- Partnered with Advancement on numerous fundraising initiatives, including, most recently, a \$5 million gift to found the Moore Documentary Studies Collaborative.
- Partnered with Advancement on the creation of three additional endowed chairs.

- Introduced many programs aimed at increasing access and opportunity to all students, but especially students from underrepresented groups/first-gen/Pell-eligible
- Oversaw the effort to create several new disciplinary and interdisciplinary academic departments/programs (Black Studies, Media and Film Studies, Documentary Studies Collaborative).
- Introduced initiatives to support non-tenure line faculty in a variety of ways, including increased pay, increased opportunities for career advancement/promotion, and increased participation in the life of the College.
- Partnered with faculty and other colleagues on several extensive *Faculty Handbook* language changes, including ones aimed at increased clarity on tenure and promotion processes/expectations and reducing faculty workload.
- Implemented a substantial program where faculty receive teaching credit for all self-directed studies (independent studies, senior theses, collaborative research, internships).
- Senior Provost in the New York Six consortium (Colgate, Hamilton, Hobart and William Smith, Skidmore, St. Lawrence, and Union).
- Collaborated with Student Affairs, Admissions, and other offices on New Student Orientation, Housing issues, co-curricular programming, etc.

***Assistant Dean of the Faculty (2008-2011)***

The Assistant Dean of the Faculty (now known as the Director of the Center for Leadership, Teaching, and Learning) oversees all faculty development initiatives, including the faculty mentoring program, the “New Faculty Orientation program”, the “New Faculty Learning Community”, extensive writing groups, various affinity groups, implicit bias trainings, and NYSix faculty development programs. The annual program budget for this office is approximately \$50,000.

Key accomplishments include:

- Inaugural Assistant Dean—many of the programs were founded under my watch.
- Established a mentoring program for all incoming faculty
- Secured the Mellon grant to fund the Center for Leadership, Teaching, and Learning
- Doubled the faculty development funding for “Travel to Read and Represent,” Sabbatical Enhancement,” “Faculty-Student Collaborative Research”.
- Emphasized inclusivity and belonging as fundamental principles of our mission.

***Director of the First-Year Experience (2007-2011)***

The Director of the First-Year Experience leads the curricular and co-curricular programming aimed at providing an intellectual and social toolkit for all incoming students. S/he/they oversee all Scribner Seminars (45 first year seminars offered each fall), the recruitment of faculty for the Seminars, the New Student Orientation, the Fourth Credit hour, all co-curricular offerings (partnering with Student Affairs), the London program, enrollment matters, and most Admissions materials (partnering with Admissions and with Communications and Marketing). The annual program budget for the FYE is approximately \$60,000.

Key accomplishments include:

- Enhanced collaboration with Student Affairs and Admissions
- Provided increased training and support for faculty teaching in the program
- Started the peer mentoring program and provided critical training
- Expanded and Improved New Student Orientation
- Created Diversity and Inclusion programming for faculty and students

## Publications

### Books:

*Founding Edits: How Revisions to America's Most Sacred Political Treatises Helped Shape the Nation's History* (under contract with Stanford University Press; expected completion date: December, 2025)

*A Constitution for the Living: Imagining How Five Generations of Americans Would Rewrite the Nation's Fundamental Law*. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press (2021). (Winner of the 2022 PROSE Award in Legal Studies and Criminology, Association of American Publishers. Gold Medal in the 2022 Independent Publisher Book Awards [IPPYs], U.S. History Category)

*From Words to Worlds: Exploring Constitutional Functionality*, (The Johns Hopkins Series in Constitutional Thought), Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press (2009).

*The Communitarian Constitution*. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins University Press (2004). Paperback edition (2006).

### Monographs in Progress:

*John Lansing, Jr.: The Rise and Mysterious Fall of a Reluctant Constitutional Framers* (expected completion date: December, 2025)

### Articles and Book Chapters:

"American Democracy May Be Doomed; It's a Good Thing We Have a Republic," in Austin Sarat (ed.), *Is Democracy Doomed? Studies in Law, Politics and Society* (England: Emerald Publishing, 2026).

"Why The Preamble Matters" in *Democracy: A Journal of Ideas*. Volume 61, Summer 2021

"Nomos and Native American Narratives: The Duality of Law in the Liberal State" (with Katherine Cavanaugh), *Studies in Law, Politics, and Society* (edited by Austin Sarat), 2014. Reprinted in the *Quinnipiac Law Review*, Volume 31, No. 3, 2013.

"Is There a Paradox in Amending a Sacred Text?" (Maryland Constitutional Law Schmooze Symposium Issue) 69 *Maryland Law Review* 1, pp. 66-76 (2009)

"The Paradox of Race and America's Experiment with Capital Punishment: Are We Probing Deeply Enough?" Review Essay in *International Criminal Justice Review*, Volume 18-3 (September, 2008).

"Evolutionary History: The Changing Purposes for Capital Punishment" (with John J.P. Howley and Molly Appel) in *Is the Death Penalty Dying? Studies in Law, Politics, and Society*. Austin Sarat, ed., Volume 42 (2008), pp. 1-19.

"Extinguishing the Victims' Payne or Acquiescing to the "Demon of Error": Confronting the Role of Victims in Capital Clemency Proceedings" (with Charles S. Lanier) in *Wounds That Do Not Bind: A Victim-Centered Perspective on Criminal Homicide and Capital Punishment*. James Acker and David R. Karp, ed., (Durham, NC: Carolina Academic Press, 2006)

"Bomb Plans on the Internet: The Case for Constitutional Protection," *The American Review of Politics*, Vol. No. (Fall/Winter 2004)

- “Policy Case Study: Responding To Hate Speech—The Limitations of Speech Codes and the Promise of Restorative Practices” in *Restorative Community Justice on the College Campus*. David Karp and Thom Allena, eds. (Springfield, Illinois: Charles C. Thomas Publishers, 2004).
- “Debating Death: Critical Issues in Capital Punishment” (with David R. Karp) in *Critical Issues in Crime and Justice* (Second Edition). Albert R. Roberts, ed. (Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 2003).
- “Defending the Politics of Clemency” (with John J. P. Howley), *Oregon Law Review* 81:1 (Spring 2002): 231-254.
- “The Comparative Legal System of Lesotho” (with Christopher A. Whann), in *Legal Systems of the World: A Political, Social, and Cultural Encyclopedia*. Herbert M. Kritzer, ed. (Santa Barbara, CA: ABC CLIO, 2002).
- “Restorative Justice in School Communities” (with David R. Karp), *Youth & Society* 33:2 (December 2001): 249-272.

#### Short Articles, Reviews, and Media Presentations

- “Project 2025 Isn’t Going Away,” [Op-Ed](#) in *The Boston Globe*, September 28, 2024.
- Regular Commentator on the Roundtable Panel at WAMC (Albany’s NPR station)
- “[A Republic, if we can keep it](#),” Weekly column in *The Fulcrum*, (December, 2023 - present)
- Guest on C-SPAN, [Washington Journal](#) (July 12, 2024)
- Guest on *Consider the Constitution* podcast: “Constitutional Endurance” (February 14, 2024, July 31, 2024)
- Review of John J. Davenport, *The Democracy Amendments: Constitutional Reforms to Save the United States in Governance: An International Journal of Policy, Administration, and Institutions in Governance* (Volume 2024)
- “Think Green. Think Tech” — [Interview With Dr. Beau Breslin](#) on “Win Win Women Network.”
- “Court closes the book on the era of Sandra Day O’Connor,” in the *Times Union* (July 6, 2023). Reprinted in [The Fulcrum](#), December 7, 2023.
- “Constitutional Myths and Misconceptions” – [First Amendment Unscripted](#) (First Amendment Museum program).
- Regular guest on *The Thomas Jefferson Hour*: [A Constitution for the Living](#) (#1509); “The Founders and the Cutting Room Floor” (#1546); “[Jefferson, John Marshall, and Judicial Review](#)” (#1547), “America at 250” (#1610), “The Declaration of Independence and Conspiracy Theories” (#1629).
- “Why the Founders Would be Aghast at the Supreme Court’s Abortion Ruling,” in [The Fulcrum](#) (June 28, 2022).
- “[A Constitution for the Living](#)” on C-SPAN’s American History TV (March, 2022) (originally delivered as part of Montpelier’s “Constitution 101” series, January, 2022).

- “What Would Jefferson Snap? A Call on Gen-Z to Rewrite the Constitution” in [Stanford University Press blog](#) (September 17, 2021), reprinted in [The Fulcrum](#) (November 5, 2021), the [Tampa Bay Times](#) (November 9, 2021)
- Review of Kimberly K. Smith, *The Conservation Constitution: The Conservation Movement and Constitutional Change, 1870-1930* in *American Political Thought* (Volume 10, No. 2, Spring 2021)
- Review of Michael Faber’s *An Anti-Federalist Constitution: The Development of Dissent in the Ratification Debates* in *Law and Politics Book Review*, Volume 30, Number 7 (August, 2020).
- “Visiting Practitioner’s Message” in the Collaborative on Academic Careers in Higher Education (COACHE) Annual Report, 2019.
- “Kate Ericson and Mel Ziegler: Constitution on Tour” in *Accelerate: Access and Inclusion at the Tang Teaching Museum*, No. 1 (2017).
- “Reality Check: Negotiating Different Perspectives” in *AAC&U Peer Review*, Fall 2014/Winter 2015, Volume 15, No. 4/Volume 16, No. 1
- Review of Jack Balkin’s *Constitutional Redemption: Political Faith in an Unjust Word* in *Law and Politics Book Review*, Volume 22, Number 8 (August, 2012).
- “Academic Minute” — Reflections on the Constitution — WAMC – NPR, July 13, 2010.  
[http://www.publicbroadcasting.net/wamc/news.newsmain?action=article&ARTICLE\\_ID=1672895](http://www.publicbroadcasting.net/wamc/news.newsmain?action=article&ARTICLE_ID=1672895)
- Review of Robert L. Tsai’s *Eloquence and Reason: Creating a First Amendment Culture in Perspectives on Politics*, Volume 8, Number 4 (December, 2010), 1243-1244
- Review of Roberta Rosenthal Kwall’s *The Soul of Creativity: Forging a Moral Rights Law for the United States* in *Law and Politics Book Review*, Volume 20, Number 8 (August, 2010).
- Review of Zachary Elkins, Tom Ginsburg, and James Melton’s *The Endurance of National Constitutions* in *Law and Politics Book Review*, Volume 20, Number 2 (February, 2010).
- Review of Franz von Benda-Beckmann, Keebet von Benda-Beckmann, and Julia Eckert’s (eds.) *Rules of Law and Laws of Ruling: On the Governance of Law* in *Law and Politics Book Review*, Volume 19, Number 12 (December 2009).
- Review of Sonu Bedi’s *Rejecting Rights* in *Law and Politics Book Review*, Volume 19, Number 7 (July, 2009)
- “Wrong Way to Make Right Choice,” Op-Ed in the *Times Union* (Albany, NY), May 27, 2009
- Review of Mauro Zamboni’s *The Policy of Law: A Legal Theoretical Framework* in *Law and Politics Book Review*, Volume 18, Number 5 (May 2008).
- Review of Stephen Elkin’s *Reconstructing the Commercial Republic: Constitutional Design After Madison* in *Law and Politics Book Review*, Volume 17, Number 2 (February 2007).
- Review of Gretchen Ritter’s *The Constitution as Social Design: Gender and Civic Membership in the American Constitutional Order* in *Perspectives on Politics*, Volume 5, Number 1 (March 2007)

- “Executive Clemency,” “Rational Basis Test,” Doctrine of Strict Scrutiny,” in *Encyclopedia of American Civil Rights and Liberties*. Otis Stephens and John Scheb, eds. Westport, CT: Greenwood Publishers (2006).
- Review of Shirley Robin Letwin’s *On the History of the Idea of Law* in *Law and Politics Book Review*, Volume 16, Number 9 (August 2006).
- Review of Stuart Banner’s *The Death Penalty: An American History* in *Criminal Justice Review*, Volume 31, Number 2 (June 2006).
- “Suicide Ruling Reflects O’Connor’s Influence,” Op-Ed in *The Post Star* (Glens Falls, NY), January 29, 2006.
- “Roberts Could Change History,” Op-Ed in *The Post Star* (Glens Falls, NY), July 21, 2005.
- Review of Alan Brudner’s *Constitutional Goods* in *Law and Politics Book Review*, Vol. 15, no. 6 (June 2005). (translated into Chinese, July, 2005)
- Review of T.R.S. Allan’s *Constitutional Justice: A Liberal Theory of the Rule of Law* in *Law and Politics Book Review*, Vol. 14, no. 6 (June, 2004)
- Review of George I. Lovell’s *Legislative Deferrals: Statutory Ambiguity, Judicial Power, and American Democracy* in *Law and Politics Book Review*, Vol. 13, no. 11 (November, 2003)
- “Community Justice in the Campus Setting” (with David R. Karp and Pat Oles) in *Conflict Management in Higher Education Report* 3:1 (October 2002).
- “Constitutionalism,” “Judicial Scrutiny,” “James Bradley Thayer,” in *Encyclopedia of the United States Supreme Court*. Thomas T. Lewis and Richard L. Wilson, ed. Pasadena, CA: Salem Press, 1999.

## Political Science Conferences and Presentations

- “Author Meets Critics” panel on Ken Kersch’s *Conservatives and the Constitution: Imagining Constitutional Restoration in the Heyday of American Liberalism* at the Annual Meeting of the New England Political Science Association, Bretton Woods, NH, April 2022.
- “Founding Edits: Revising the Declaration and Creating a Legacy Problem,” presentation at the Center for Humanistic Inquiry Symposium, Skidmore College, March 2022.
- Constitutional Convention Delegate, The Tomasky Project, proceedings to be published in *Democracy: A Journal of Ideas*, Summer, 2021.
- “The Constitutional Convention of 1825,” paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the New England Political Science Association, Portland, ME, April 2019
- “Is it Time for a New Constitutional Convention? A Conversation About Thomas Jefferson’s Call for Periodic Constitutional Renewal.” Constitution Day Invited Lecture, Union College, September 17, 2018
- Chair and Discussant for Panel “Up, Down, and Sideways: Challenges in Federalism” at the Annual Meeting of the New England Political Science Association, Portsmouth, NH, April 2018

Alexander Bickel's *The Least Dangerous Branch: Fifty Years Later*, Roundtable discussion at the Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Boston, MA, November 2012.

"Austin Sarat, Robert Cover, and the Problem of Legal Violence" (invited speaker) at Austin Sarat: On Punishment and Sentencing," The 8<sup>th</sup> Conference on Law and Philosophy at Quinnipiac Law School, October 2012.

Colloquium on Gary Jacobsohn's *Constitutional Identity* (invited speaker), University of Texas Law School, March 23, 2012

Chair for panel "Political Theory: Constitutions/Foundings" at the Annual Meeting of the New England Political Science Association, Hartford, CT, April 2011

"The Generational Constitution: Jefferson, Madison, and the Call for Periodic Constitutional Renewal," paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the New England Political Science Association, Hartford, CT, April 2011.

"The Generational Constitution: Jefferson, Madison, and the Call for Periodic Constitutional Renewal," paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the New York State Political Science Association, Niagara University, April 2011.

Chair and Discussant for panel "Modern American Political Challenges" at the Annual Meeting of the New York State Political Science Association, Niagara University, April 2011.

Chair and Discussant for panel "A Matter of Interpretation: Thoughts on American Theory and Jurisprudence" at the Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Boston, MA, November 2010.

"Founding Narratives: How Presidents Speak About America's Constitutional Birth," paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Boston, MA, November 2010.

"Echoes of the Founding: Examining America's Constitutional Birth," paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA November 2009.

Participant in panel examining my book, *From Words to Worlds: Exploring Constitutional Functionality*, at the annual meeting of the New England Political Science Association, Portland, ME, April 2009.

Discussant for panel "Law and History" at the annual meeting of the New England Political Science Association, Portland, ME, April 2009.

Participant, Maryland Constitutionalism "Schmooze" (invited), "Is There a Paradox in Amending a Sacred Text?" (admissions ticket), University of Maryland School of Law, Baltimore, MD, February 2009.

Discussant for panel "The Supreme Court: Decisions and Interpretation" at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Boston, MA, November 2008.

Chair for panel "The Supreme Court: Docket and Procedures" at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Boston, MA, November 2008.

Discussant for panel "Public Law: Constitutional Issues" at the annual meeting of the New England Political Science Association, Providence, RI, April 2008 (submitted discussion remarks to Chair).

Chair and Discussant for panel “Politics and the Courts” at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, November 2007.

Participant in “Author Meets Critics: Mark A Graber’s *Dred Scott and the Problem of Constitutional Evil*” at the annual meeting of the New England Political Science Association, Newton, MA, April 2007.

Discussant for panel “Judicial Review in Comparative Perspective” at the annual meeting of the New England Political Science Association, Newton, MA, April 2007.

“From Words to Worlds: Reflections on Why Constitutional Texts Matter,” at the *We The People* State Finals, Charlottesville, VA, February 9, 2007

“Constitutional Empowerment,” paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Boston, MA, November 2006

“Constitutional Aspiration,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the New England Political Science Association, Portsmouth, NH, May 2006.

“From Words to Worlds: Some Thoughts on Constitutional Transformation,” invited lecture, Princeton’s Public Law Speakers’ Series, March 2, 2006.

“Organizing Constitutions and Constitutionalism,” paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, November 2005

Chair for panel “The Countermajoritarian Problem” at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Washington DC, September 2005

Chair for panel “Civil Rights and the Law” at the annual meeting of the New England Political Science Association, Portland, ME, May 2005.

Discussant for panel “Liberty and Constitutional Democracy” at the annual meeting of the New England Political Science Association, Portland, ME, May 2005.

“From Words to Worlds: Examining Constitutional Functionality,” paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Boston, MA, November 2004

“From Words to Worlds: Examining Constitutional Functionality,” poster presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, September 2004

Chair and Discussant for panel “Constitutional Law and Global Inequalities” at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, September 2004

Chair and Discussant for panel “The Judiciary and Politics in Liberal Democracy” at the annual meeting of the New England Political Science Association, Portsmouth, NH, May 2004.

Participant for Workshop “Restorative Justice: Promoting Student Growth, Responsibility and Re-engaging the Spirit of the Campus Community” at the annual meeting of the Association for Student Judicial Affairs, Tampa, FL, February 2004

“The Impact of Female State Chief Judges on the Administration of State Courts,” (with Robert C. Turner) paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, August 2003.

Discussant for panel “Perspectives on Constitutional Construction” at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, August 2003.

Discussant for panel “Constitutionalism and the Right to Culture” at the annual meeting of the New England Political Science Association, Providence, RI, May 2003.

“The Impact of Female State Chief Judges on the Administration of State Courts,” (with Robert C. Turner) paper presented at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL, April 2003.

“Defending the Politics of Clemency,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Association of Criminal Justice Sciences, Bristol, RI, June 2002.

“Roundtable: The Citizen and the Constitution,” participant at the conference sponsored by the Center for Civic Education, Washington DC, June 2002.

“Defending the Politics of Clemency,” paper presented at the University of Oregon School of Law Conference entitled “The Law and Politics of the Death Penalty: Abolition, Moratorium, or Reform?” Eugene, Oregon, March 2002.

“The Elusive Quest for Constitutional Recognition,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, November 2001.

“Roundtable: Federal Judicial Selection in the Wake of the 2000 Election,” participant at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, San Francisco, CA, September 2001.

“Roundtable: Restorative Justice in the Classroom and on Campus,” participant at the annual meeting of the Justice Studies Association, Norton, MA, May 2001.

“Internal Constitutional Conflict: The Classroom Battle Between Free Speech and Religious Liberty,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Albany, NY, November 2000.

Chair for panel “Judicial Appointments and Behavior” at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Albany, NY, November 2000.

Discussant for panel “Judicial Decisionmaking” at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Albany, NY, November 2000.

“Balancing Free Speech and Diversity on Private College Campuses,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the New York Political Science Association, Hofstra University, April 2000.

“Free Speech and the Internet: A Justification for Greater Constitutional Protection,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, November 1999.

Chair for panel “State Courts and Federalism” at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Boston, MA, November 1998.

“Constitutional Recognition and the Quebecois: The Comparative Lessons of the African-American Community,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston, MA, September 1998.

Discussant for panel “Community and Constitutional Law” at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association, Boston, MA, September 1998.

Chair and Discussant for panel “Judicial Politics” at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Philadelphia, PA, November 1997.

“Roundtable: Community and Morality in a Democratic Society,” New York University, February 1997.

“Revisiting the Judicial Double Standard: Alternative Perspectives on the American Constitutional Order,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Conference, Boston, MA, November 1996.

Discussant for panel “Judicial Selection Process” at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Boston, MA, November 1996.

“Individualism and Community: A Review of Recent Debates in Political Thought,” paper presented at the Center for Civic Education Conference on Individualism and Community in a Democratic Society, Washington DC, October 1996.

Chair and Discussant for panel “Influential Individuals and Democratic Governance” at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Newark, NJ, November 1995.

“A Constitutional Challenge to Communitarianism,” paper presented at the annual meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Providence, RI, November 1994.

Participant at “The Good Polity” Conference, University of Pennsylvania, November 1994.

“The Constitutional Vision for the United States Presidency,” paper presented at the “Crisis in Democracy” Conference, Philadelphia, PA, October 1993.

“The Incorporation Debate: A Study of Original Intent and Interpretivism,” paper presented at the Bicentennial Bill of Rights Conference, Purdue University, March 1991.

## **Honors and Awards**

Joseph C. Palamountain Jr. Chair in Government, Skidmore College (2021-present)  
2018-2019 COACHE Visiting Practitioner, Harvard University Graduate School of Education  
Constitution Day Invited Speaker, Union College (2018), Skidmore College (2021),  
Shippensburg University (2023)  
2008-2009 Ralph A. Ciancio Award for Excellence in Teaching  
Faculty Commencement Speaker (voted on by the graduating seniors), May 2004  
Visiting Scholar (Virginia “We the People” Program), Center for the Constitution, James  
Madison’s Montpelier, 2005-2008  
Lecturer, Center for the Constitution, James Madison’s Montpelier, 2023.

## **Selected Panel Participant/Speeches at Skidmore and the community (prior to becoming Dean of the Faculty)**

Saratoga Film Forum, Moderator for panel discussion on education (after viewing “Waiting for Superman”), January 6, 2011  
“Echoes of the Founding: Examining America’s Constitutional Birth” Survey of Liberal Studies for Mature Audiences (October 26, 28, 2009)  
“Do Constitutions Even Matter Anymore?” Survey of Liberal Studies for Mature Audiences (October 20, 22, 2008)  
Regular Speeches about FYE at Junior Admissions Open Houses and Accepted Candidates Days  
Moderator – Publishing Day Panel (May 2, 2008)

Convocation Speaker (2007, 2008, 2009)  
 Introduction for Linda Greenhouse, Commencement, 2007  
 Bias Response Panel, April 25, 2007  
 "Capital Punishment: Current Controversies" (Concord, MA Art Association), Alumni Club of Boston, March 4, 2007  
 "Race to Execution" WMHT Discussion about Capital Punishment (Saratoga Springs Library), February 25, 2007  
 "Roe v. Wade and the Future of Constitutional Privacy," November 8, 2006  
 "Perspectives on Leadership," August 31, 2006  
 "Shades of Gray," February 22, 2006  
 "The Roberts' Court," Fridays at Four, October 28, 2005  
 "Present at the Creation: Reflections on the History of the Government Department" (moderator), June 4, 2005.  
 Pi Sigma Alpha Induction Speech, May 3, 2005  
 "What Does a Feminist Look Like?" (Women's Studies Panel), November 9, 2004  
 "The 2004 Election" (Honors Forum Discussion), November 2, 2004  
 "Academic Rigor" (Pedagogy Workshop), October 24, 2003  
 "Shades of Gray II," April 23, 2003  
 "Civil Liberties in the Wake of 9-11," October 29-31, 2002  
 "Terrorism and the Constitution," October 9, 2002.  
 "Public Forum on the Saratoga City Charter," October 15, 2001.  
 "The Supreme Court in American Life: Changing Trends in the Area of Civil Rights and Liberties," Summer Exploration, August 7, 2001.  
 "The Debate Over Capital Punishment in America," February 5, 2001.  
 "Death Penalty Panel Discussion," December 5, 2000.  
 "Roundtable Discussion on the 2000 Election," November 14, 2000.  
 "The 2000 Election," Honors Forum Discussion, October 27, 2000.  
 "China-Taiwan Relations," April 7, 2000.  
 "Public Forum on Women's Reproductive Rights," April 4, 2000  
 "Student Bill of Rights Forum," February 29, 2000.  
 "The Ten Commandments in the Classroom: The Constitutional and Legal Implications," November 15, 1999.  
 "Crisis in the American Presidency: Future Impacts," October 13, 1998.

## **Courses Taught**

Freedom in Film (ID 151)  
 Evolving Standards of Decency (ID 151)  
 Peer Mentor Seminar (ID 201)  
 American Liberty: Our Enduring Struggle With Constitutional Rights (Scribner Seminar)  
 The Killing State: Capital Punishment in America (Scribner Seminar)  
 United States Government Institutions  
 United States Judicial Process  
 Freedom for Some: The First Amendment  
 American Constitutional Law  
 Civil Liberties  
 Contemporary Constitutional Problems  
 Law and Society  
 Law, Citizenship and Justice  
 Comparative Constitutional Systems  
 Death Penalty in America

## **Personal Grants Awarded**

Skidmore Faculty Development Grant, “The Generational Constitution: Jefferson, Madison, and the Call for Periodic Constitutional Renewal,” 2019

Skidmore Summer Collaborative Research Grant, “The Generational Constitution: Jefferson, Madison and the Call for Periodic Constitutional Renewal” (with Kate Cavanaugh and Ben Polsky), Summer 2014

Skidmore Summer Collaborative Research Grant, “The Generational Constitution: Jefferson, Madison and the Call for Periodic Constitutional Renewal” (with Matt Rothenberg), Summer 2011

Skidmore Summer Collaborative Research Grant, “Echoes of the Founding: Examining America’s Constitutional Birth, Part II” (with Matt Rothenberg), Summer 2010

Skidmore Summer Collaborative Research Grant, “Echoes of the Founding: Examining America’s Constitutional Birth, Part I” (with Matt Rothenberg), Summer 2009

Teagle Foundation Grant: “Writing in the Majors Initiative” (Principal Investigator for the College), 2008-2012 - \$150,000.

Skidmore Summer Collaborative Research Grant, “The Historical Justification for Capital Punishment” (with Molly Appel), Summer 2006

Title VI Federal Grant, for curriculum development: “Comparative Constitutional Systems,” 2005-2006.

Skidmore Major Project Completion Grant, *From Words to Worlds: Examining Constitutional Functionality*, 2005.

Skidmore Summer Collaborative Research Grant, “Transcending: Reflections by Crime Victims” (with Matthew Sweet and Sarah Luckenbach), Summer 2003.

Skidmore Summer Collaborative Research Grant, “Elevating Associate Justices: The Recipe for Downplaying Ideology in the Appointment of the Chief Justice?” (with Jared Gottlieb), Summer 2002.

Skidmore Summer Collaborative Research Grant, “Free Speech and Internet Violence: A Justification for Broad Constitutional Protection” (with Jon Eick), Summer 2001.

A.W. Mellon Grant to Enrich Law and Society Program (part of Presidential Initiative Grant), 2000.

## Professional Affiliation and Service

### Current Membership:

American Conference of Academic Deans (ACAD)  
 Council on Law in Higher Ed (CLHE)  
 Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR)  
 American Political Science Association  
 Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association  
 Northeastern Political Science Association  
 New England Political Science Association

### Professional Conference Service:

COACHEcast, “Change Leadership in Higher Education” podcast, Collaborative on Academic Careers in Higher Education, Harvard Graduate School of Education (Fall/Spring ’24)

“But What About the Faculty? Data and Questions for AAC&U Participation” presentation at the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) Conference, January 2019, Atlanta, Georgia.

“Who Is At The Table? Developing a Menu of Best Practices for Hiring” presentation at the “Expanding and Welcoming a Diverse Professoriate” conference, Muhlenberg College, November 10, 2018.

“What COACHE Reveals: Faculty Trends at Liberal Arts Colleges” presentation at the Annual Northeast Deans’ meetings, Amherst College, Amherst, MA, November 1, 2018.

“Less is More: Data Driven Strategies for Reducing Faculty Workload” presentation at the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) Conference, January 2018, Washington DC

“Connecting and Integrating General Education Curricula to Students’ Future Work, Lives, and Citizenship” presentation at the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) Conference, January 2018, Washington DC

“Just in Time Inclusive Hiring” presentation at the New England Higher Education Recruitment Consortium (HERC) Conference, November 2015, College of the Holy Cross

“Just in Time Inclusive Hiring” presentation at the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education (NCORE), May 2015, Washington DC

“Just in Time Inclusive Hiring” presentation at the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) Conference, January 2014, Washington DC

“Just in Time Inclusive Hiring” presentation at the Northeast Deans’ conference, November 2013, Hamilton College

“Assessing College-Level Learning in the First Semester: Can We Really Say Anything At All?” (invited presentation at Mellon Assessment Conference, Hamilton College, April 23-24, 2010).

“Systematic Improvement Grants: Lessons Learned and Obstacles Overcome: (invited presentation at Teagle Conference – Duke University – October 16, 2009).

“Student Engagement: Cultivating Intellectual Independence II,” (invited presentation/lecture at MassBay Community College, Wellesley, MA, June, 2009).

“Student Engagement: Cultivating Intellectual Independence,” (invited presentation/lecture at MassBay Community College, Wellesley, MA, March 2008).

NITLE Workshop, “Teaching and Learning Centers: Models and Practices,” (Middlebury College – September 21-23, 2007)

American Council on Education, “Chairing the Academic Department” Workshop (Washington DC – June 14-17, 2006)

Manuscript Reviewer for Johns Hopkins University Press, Stanford University Press, Princeton University Press, Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, University of Massachusetts Press, Roxbury Publishing, Pearson/Longman Publishers, Butterworth Heinemann (Elsevier), *Law and Society Review*, *Studies in Law, Politics, and Society*, *The American Review of Politics*, *American Politics Research*, *Law, Culture, and the Humanities*, *Polity*, *Journal of Empirical Legal Studies*, *American Political Thought*

C. Herman Pritchett Award Selection Committee, 2023

College Committee Service (partial list):

Collyer Vice President for Advancement Search Committee  
Co-Chair of Middle States Steering Committee  
IdeaLab Steering Committee  
Intellectual Property Working Group (Chair)  
Science Facilities Task Force  
Masters in Liberal Arts Committee  
Registrar/Institutional Research Working Group  
ESL Search Committee  
Leadership Development Cabinet  
Student Assessment and Intervention Group  
Chair, Teagle Review Committee (Writing in the Majors Initiative)  
Organizer, Faculty Learning Community (New Faculty Seminar Program)  
Honors Forum Council  
Assessment Steering Committee  
Center for Teaching and Learning Working Group  
Chair of Numerous FYE Advisory Groups  
Dean of Student Affairs Search Committee  
Institutional Policy and Planning Committee  
    Subcommittee on Admissions and Financial Aid  
    Subcommittee on Budget and Finance  
McCormack Residency Advisory Group  
Director, FYE Assessment Project  
Course Release Taskforce  
Inclusive Hiring Taskforce  
First-Year Experience Assessment Taskforce  
Law and Society Steering Committee  
Saratoga Springs Free Speech Ordinance Taskforce  
Assessment Taskforce  
Dean of Special Programs Search Committee  
Committee on Education Policies and Planning  
    Physical Activities Subcommittee  
Periclean Executive Committee  
University Without Walls Committee  
Dean of Faculty Staff  
Academic Staff  
Athletic Council  
ICARUS Committee  
Defense Advisor: Integrity Board  
Integrity Board Member  
Leadership Institute Study Group  
Honor Code Discussion Group