



HARVARD UNIVERSITY

January 2016

INSTITUTE OF POLITICS

Students Featured Speakers at IOP Board Meeting • Voter Registration • National Campaign • Careers and Internships • Newly Elected Mayors • Fall Resident and Visiting Fellows • JFK Jr. Forum • Fall Photo Highlights • New Youth Poll • New Frontier Awards • IOP Alumni Updates



50 YEARS CREATING THE FUTURE OF POLITICS

Students, guests and Fellows were in the center of the action at the Institute this fall. The IOP approached its 50th year, continuing a long-standing tradition of bringing young people close to the leaders and experts shaping today's politics and inspiring students to careers creating the future of politics.

Welcome to the IOP

CREATING THE FUTURE OF POLITICS



The Fall 2015 semester at the Institute was marked by incredible programming and amazing guests – featuring leaders in politics and public service and legendary pioneers in other fields. Frank Gehry, one of the most celebrated architects of our time (above with IOP Director **Maggie Williams**), spoke in the JFK Jr. Forum on November 13 and discussed the power of architecture to change our daily experience and turn around the economy of an entire city (the “Bilbao effect”).

Several new ideas were explored in the “IOP Incubator” this fall. “Moments to Movements” examined building strong and sustainable movements – and explored gun control as a case study on Oct. 5 with Harvard Kennedy School 2015 acting Dean **Archon Fung** and former National Rifle Association president and Fall 1976 IOP Fellow **David Keene**. The IOP also debuted a crisis simulation initiative in a mock White House “Situation Room,” featuring a dozen students in specific roles working to solve an international crisis in real-time. The Oct. 23 session also featured a special guest playing the role of the Commander in Chief: President **Bill Clinton** (above with Spring 2014 IOP Fellow **Farah Pandith**). Check out more photos from this new IOP initiative and other programming on pages 11—12.

Students Wow IOP Board

STEAM, DIVERSITY TOP STUDENT PRIORITIES



This past November, Student Advisory Committee (SAC) leaders discussed new initiatives and successes with the IOP's Senior Advisory Committee. **Jenny Gao** (top photo, right), an applied mathematics concentrator, presented a handful of student STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math) projects that applied student science backgrounds to issues facing the city of Boston. **Colin Diersing** (above right) discussed the IOP's efforts to foster inclusion as a top student priority to diversify the faces of the future of politics for years to come. **Joe Choe** (above left) emphasized his powerful experiences as both a tutor and chair of the IOP's citizenship tutoring program, which helps Harvard employees prepare to take the U.S. citizenship exam.

IOP Senior Advisory Committee members hearing the student presentations included the committee's newest addition, U.S. Representative **Elise Stefanik** (above center; NY-21, R), an IOP alumna and former Institute Student Advisory Committee Vice President.

Voter Registration

INCREASING STUDENT VOTER REGISTRATION



Since 2011, the Institute of Politics has partnered with online voter registration portal TurboVote to help students register to vote, request absentee ballots and get reminders about upcoming elections and registration deadlines. The IOP integrated campus voter registration efforts throughout all Institute programming this fall, identifying and registering over 3,000 Harvard undergraduates using the IOP's TurboVote registration web page. The IOP featured a voter registration sign-up booth at its front desk throughout the fall— and hosted a registration-themed “Brain Break” event to register hundreds of freshmen (see photo above).

National Campaign

BOOSTING STUDENT POLITICAL ENGAGEMENT



The IOP was thrilled to host over 50 students representing 27 colleges and universities and 22 states for a National Campaign conference on “Campus Activation: Increasing Student Voting and Political Engagement.” The seminar featured political practitioners and expert organizers on voter registration and campus political engagement.

(Row 1): Members of Congress and IOP Senior Advisory Committee members Joe Kennedy III (right) and Elyse Stefanik (via Skype) spoke about “The Importance of Engaging Millennials in the 2016 Election” during a Sept. 26 JFK Jr. Forum event. The event was moderated by Ashley Spillane, president of *Rock the Vote* (left); (Rows 2 and 3): Jennifer Friedman, deputy White House press secretary, and Benny Johnson, creative director of the *Independent Journal Review*, led the National Campaign conference session: “Social Media, Communications and Marketing.”



Careers & Internships

INSPIRING STUDENTS TO PUBLIC SERVICE



This past November, 30 public sector organizations with representatives from across the country traveled to campus for Harvard College's second-annual Public Service Recruiting Day. Hiring representatives met with 130 seniors interested in pursuing post-graduate opportunities in politics and public service. Organizations spanned the breadth of public service, from non-profits to the federal government and advocacy organizations.



Now in its second year, this annual collaborative campus effort builds relationships and opportunities between graduating seniors and the public sector. In 2014, nearly one-in-five students who participated in the event received a job or fellowship offer. This year, with a 50 percent increase in participating organizations with seniors, the Institute anticipates that statistic to be even higher.

Newly Elected Mayors

NEW CITY LEADERS CONVERGE AT IOP



What should a new mayor prioritize in the first 100 days in office? What new technologies can improve city governance? What should you say – or not say – in a crisis? These questions and more were answered at the Institute’s 2015 biennial *Seminar on Transition and Leadership for Newly Elected Mayors*, the country’s preeminent educational and preparatory program for new U.S. mayors. Over two-dozen mayors and speakers participated in the December conference – a tradition since 1975 – including former Miami, FL, mayor and IOP Senior Advisory Committee member **Manny Diaz** (above left, right), Baltimore, MD, mayor **Stephanie Rawlings-Blake** (above center), Boston, MA, mayor **Marty Walsh** (above right, right) and Gary, IN, mayor **Karen Freeman-Wilson** and Houston, TX, mayor **Annisette Parker** (right).



Fall Fellows

FALL FELLOWS INSPIRE HARVARD STUDENTS

The Fall Fellows hailed from South Africa to Virginia, and many states in between, bringing career experience from news anchor to diplomat to mayor. The Fall 2015 class of Fellows brought wisdom and cheer to the IOP. This semester the Fellows hosted study groups that covered a diverse range of topics, including: the inside workings of campaigns; diplomacy in negotiations; the democracy-building process in South Africa and Africa; how cities are leading the way in innovation, economic development, and effective government; crisis communications in the media; and how journalists shape our perception of political candidates. Visiting Fellows included the president of Brilliant Corners Research & Strategies and former “Obama for President” pollster **Cornell Belcher** (below, bottom right) and *National Journal* contributing editor **Tom DeFrank** (below, top right).



“Special thanks to the students and IOP staff for making this a once-in-a-lifetime experience”

– Fall 2015 IOP Fellow Brent Colburn (above left with Fall 2015 IOP Fellow Candy Crowley)

Just some of the Fall Fellows’ guests participating in weekly discussion groups included **David Axelrod**, former senior advisor to President Obama and IOP Senior Advisory Committee member; **Dr. Joyce Banda**, former president of the Republic of Malawi; **Richard Berry**, mayor of Albuquerque, NM; **Josh Earnest**, White House press secretary; **Ari Fleischer**, press secretary to President George W. Bush; **Stanley Greenberg**, senior pollster for President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore; **Marie Harf**, senior advisor on strategic communications, U.S. Department of State; **Roberta Jacobson**, assistant secretary for the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, U.S. Department of State; **Mike McCurry**, press secretary to President Bill Clinton; **Tito Mboweni**, governor of the South African Reserve Bank; **Amy Walter**, American political analyst, the *Cook Political Report*; and **Bob Worsley**, SkyMall founder and Arizona state senator.



Fall 2015 IOP Resident Fellows (L to R): **Scott Smith**, mayor, Mesa, AZ (2008–14); **Lindiwe Mazibuko**, member of Parliament, South Africa (2009–14); **Doug Heye**, deputy chief of staff (communications) for U.S. House Majority Leader Eric Cantor (2012–14); **Wendy Sherman**, under secretary of state for political affairs, U.S. Department of State (2011–15); **Candy Crowley**, former anchor and chief political correspondent, *CNN*; **Brent Colburn**, former assistant to the secretary of defense (public affairs) and chief of staff, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.



(L to R): **Dr. Joyce Banda**, former president of the Republic of Malawi; **Graham Allison**, director of HKS' Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs; **Wendy Sherman**, Fall 2015 IOP Fellow and former under secretary of state for political affairs, U.S. Department of State; and **Lindiwe Mazibuko**, Fall 2015 IOP Fellow and former member of South African Parliament, met with U.S. secretary of state **John Kerry** before an Oct. 13 JFK Jr. Forum event.

JFK Jr.

POWER PLAYERS IN THE JFK JR. FORUM



This fall, the JFK Jr. Forum considered the future of politics in the U.S. and abroad, race relations, space and architecture.



(Row 1): An Oct. 27 JFK Jr. Forum event included administrator of NASA General Charles Bolden (right) and principal of the “100 Year Starship Project” Dr. Mae Jemison (center) who joined moderator Archon Fung (left), HKS acting dean, for the discussion: “Exploring Space & Interstellar Travel;” (Row 2): U.S. secretary of defense Ashton B. Carter (left) at a Dec. 1 JFK Jr. Forum event; His Excellency Lars Løkke Rasmussen, prime minister of Denmark, addressed the JFK Jr. Forum on Oct. 29.

Forum

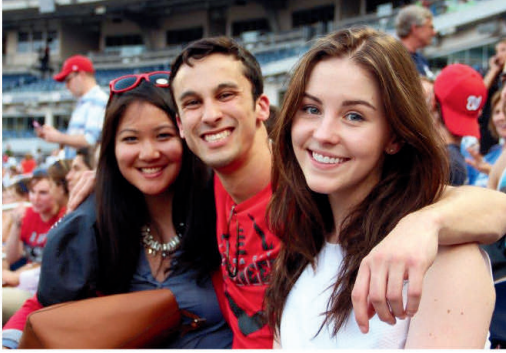
The Fall semester kicked off with a timely conversation about “Islam and Tolerance” with author and neuroscientist **Sam Harris** and counter-extremist **Maajid Nawaz**. The Forum featured current Danish prime minister **Lars Løkke Rasmussen** and former president of Malawi **Dr. Joyce Banda**. Forum conversations also included author **Ta-Nehisi Coates** and MIT linguistics professor **Noam Chomsky**. The Forum ended the semester with a full house for U.S. secretary of defense **Ashton Carter**. Watch the conversations at jfkrforum.org.



(Row 1): Ta-Nehisi Coates, National Book Award recipient and national correspondent for *The Atlantic*, joined Kathryn Edin, distinguished Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg professor; Bruce Western (left), professor of sociology at Harvard University; and William Julius Wilson, Harvard’s Lewis P. and Linda L. Geyser University professor, for a conversation on race relations in the U.S.; (Row 2): Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer (center) shares his experiences on the Supreme Court with moderators David Gergen and Nancy Gertner; (Row 3, from left): A conversation with Her Excellency Dr. Joyce Banda on Oct. 3; Josh Earnest, White House press secretary on Oct. 23; Zena Agha, Iraqi-Palestinian poet on Nov. 19.

Fall Highlights

ACTIVITY, ENERGY AND INSPIRATION AT IOP



(Row 1): IOP interns attended the annual Congressional Baseball Game at Nationals Park on June 11; IOP student leader **Osaremen Okolo** shares information on opportunities for undergrads to get involved at the September IOP Open House; (Row 2): IOP citizenship tutoring students joined “Project Citizenship” in September helping hundreds of candidates fill out applications and prepare for their U.S. citizenship exams.



(Row 1): President **Bill Clinton** (shown next to Spring 2014 IOP Fellow **Farah Pandith**) participated in the role of Commander in Chief during the Institute's first crisis simulation workshop on Oct. 23; (Row 2): Sept. 14 JFK Jr. Forum speaker and author of *Radical* **Maajid Nawaz** after his interview with IOP students **Jasmine Chia** and **Carolyn Ye**; (Row 3): Fall 2015 IOP Fellow **Lindiwe Mazibuko** (third from left) with student liaisons (from left) **Kara Birkenmayer**, **Ibukun Omotowa**, **Cengiz Cemaloğlu**, **Dr. Wilmot James** (Oct. 20 Study Group guest), **Hannah Warntjes**, **Munira Khalif** and **India Perez-Urbano**.

IOP Survey

FALL POLL ON MILLENNIALS AND POLITICS

The Harvard Public Opinion Project's (HPOP) latest national poll of the political views of America's 18- to 29- year-olds, members of the Millennial Generation, was released on Dec. 10 and generated significant media coverage. IOP Polling Director John Della Volpe discussed the new results on *MSNBC's* "Morning Joe" (below left) and *C-SPAN's* "Washington Journal" programs. HPOP student Allyson Perez (below right) was interviewed at the IOP this semester by *Fox News Channel* on young adults' preferences on the 2016 presidential election.

Full fall poll results are available online at bit.ly/IOPFallPoll.



Ask Me (Almost) Anything: IOP Pollster John Della Volpe led the IOP's inaugural reddit AMA about the poll in December to answer questions about the new fall results, Millennials and 2016.



Question from reddit AMA:

"In your research about millennials what is the most surprising / memorable thing you found about them?

Also, are there any learnings that you took away from this study that could be applied elsewhere that you are excited about? (In the workplace, etc.)"

Della Volpe:

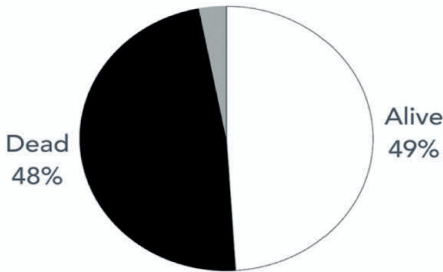
"The fact that 1/2 don't believe the American Dream is real for them is the most memorable—and disconcerting finding in some time. Here's a discussion from Morning Joe last week - <http://on.msnbc.com/1HYnizC>.

Also, in the executive summary we focused on workplace attributes and find that flexibility and opportunity to make an impact are just as important as making money. The idea of understanding how Millennials think can be applied to worklife, social—and public life."

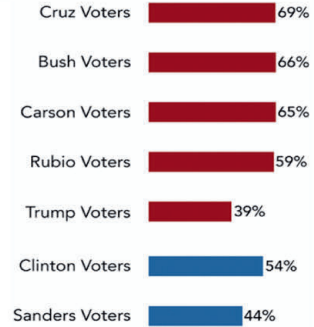
KEY FINDINGS FROM FALL IOP POLL INCLUDE:

YOUNG AMERICANS SPLIT ON WHETHER AMERICAN DREAM IS ALIVE; MAJORITY OF TRUMP AND SANDERS VOTERS SAY ITS DEAD FOR THEM

For you personally, is the idea of the American Dream alive or dead?

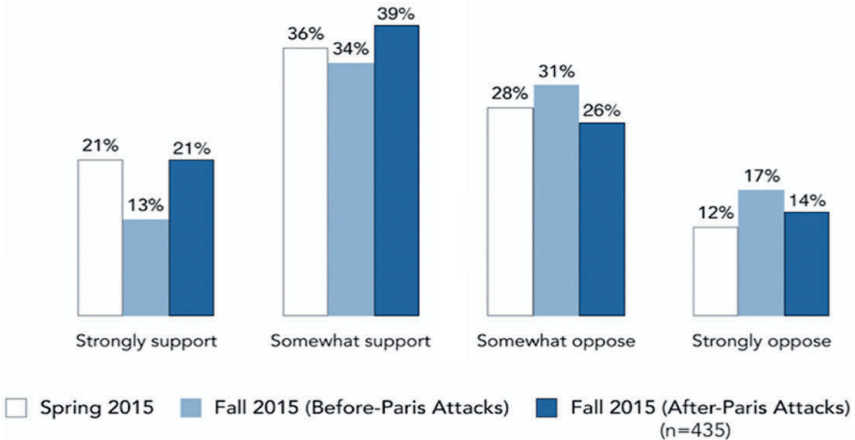


% Who Believe American Dream is Alive for Them by Subgroup



SOLID MAJORITY SUPPORT SENDING GROUND TROOPS TO COMBAT ISIS

Do you support or oppose the United States sending ground troops to participate in a military campaign against the Islamic State (IS/ISIS/ISIL)?



Immediately Before-Paris Attacks:
47% Support - 48% Oppose

***Immediately After-Paris Attacks:**
60% Support - 40% Oppose

New Frontier Awards

YOUNG LEADERS CHANGING COMMUNITIES



President Kennedy believed that politics and public service is a noble calling to which talented young women and men should aspire for the good of us all. The John F. Kennedy Library Foundation and the IOP pay tribute to that cherished ideal in a partnership formed to present the New Frontier Awards. The awards honor Americans under the age of 40 who are changing their communities and the country with their commitment to public service. **Pete Buttigieg**, the mayor of South Bend, IN, and former IOP student president, and **Kirsten Lodal**, co-founder and CEO of LIFT, a non-profit dedicated to providing holistic social services to those struggling with poverty, were named 2015 recipients. The awards were presented by U.S. congressman and IOP Senior Advisory Committee member **Joe Kennedy III** on November 12 during a ceremony at the Harvard Kennedy School.



(On the IOP Polling Youth Attitudes on Politics and Public Service)
“It changed the whole question from what’s wrong with young people that they want nothing to do with the system to what’s wrong with the system that young people, who clearly care about their communities, aren’t so sure that politics and elected government is the way to do it.”

—*Pete Buttigieg, Mayor, South Bend, IN*



“I accept this award, really as a challenge, and an expectation to redouble my efforts to combat poverty and expand opportunity in this country. It is a poignant time to reflect on President Kennedy’s 1960 invocation of a New Frontier at a time when our country was facing so many questions about who we were going to be in the world... We still have a lot of work to do in this country on those very same issues.”

—*Kirsten Lodal, Co-Founder and CEO, LIFT*

IOP on the Move

PROFESSIONAL UPDATES ON IOP ALUMNI

Christina Bellantoni (Fall 2011 Fellow) is the assistant managing editor for politics at the *Los Angeles Times*.

Alex Berenberg (SAC 2004) was promoted to lieutenant commander onboard the USS *Blue Ridge*, United States Navy Reserve.



Brian Bolduc (SAC 2010) is the director of speechwriting for U.S. House speaker Paul Ryan.

Stephen Brokaw (SAC 2006) is a local partner manager with Google Fiber in Chicago, IL.

Benjamin Calkins (SAC 1978) has launched The Calkins Law Firm, Ltd. with offices in Cleveland, OH, and Buffalo, NY.

Andrea Flores (SAC 2010) recently served as a summer associate at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP and Affiliates.

Madeleine Gearan (SAC 2015) is now a press assistant and digital director with U.S. congressman Seth Moulton of Massachusetts.

Sietse Goffard (SAC 2015) is now a financial analyst at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.



Anton J. Gunn (Fall 2014 Fellow) has been named chief diversity officer & executive director of Community Health Innovation at Medical University of South Carolina.

Kay Hagan (Spring 2015 Fellow) is a senior policy consultant with Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP.

Mark Halperin (SAC 1987) has joined a *Showtime* weekly documentary series called "The Circus."



Eric Hysen (SAC 2011) is now the digital services executive director for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.



Daniel Ki (SAC 2015) is an organizer at Hillary for America in New Hampshire.



Margaret McKenna (Spring 2012 Fellow) is now serving as the president of Suffolk University in Boston.

Mark McKinnon (Fall 2012 Fellow) has joined a *Showtime* weekly documentary series called “The Circus.”

Nicco Mele (2008 Fall Fellow) is now a senior fellow at the USC Annenberg Center on Communication Leadership & Policy.



Ana Navarro (Fall 2013 Fellow) is now a political contributor on ABC’s “The View.”



Hannah Phillips (SAC 2015) is the parliamentary assistant to the shadow cabinet minister for Housing and Planning, Rt. Hon. John Healey, MP.

Valentina I. Perez (SAC 2015) is a research associate at Hillary for America in New York.

Christine C. Quinn (Spring 2015 Fellow) has been named the president & chief executive officer at Women In Need (WIN).



Matt Shuham (SAC 2015) is an editorial intern at *Rolling Stone*.

Keith Richburg (Spring 2013 Fellow) is a visiting professor at the University of Hong Kong.

Emma Sky (Spring 2011 Fellow) is the director of the Yale World Fellows program.

Margaret Spellings (Fall 2010 Fellow) was appointed the president-elect of the University of North Carolina System.



Tarun Singh (SAC 2010) is a publisher intelligence lead at Google.

Rose Styron (Spring 2009 Fellow) just published a book of poetry, her first in over a decade, entitled *Fierce Day*.



Katie Walsh (SAC 2015) is a press assistant at the U.S. Department of Energy.



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