

# Political Science & International Relations

February 2024

Dear all,

Happy New Year and welcome back for the Spring 2024 semester. I trust you are well rested and energized in preparation for the new semester. This term we have a number of activities that I hope you will all consider engaging. The first two are fast approaching. Both are intended to address an issue that has been preoccupying many of us for months now – the ongoing conflict in the Middle East. In an effort to help the college community better understand and grapple with the conflict, we have organized two events. First, on February 6 at 1:30 we will have a presentation by members of Parents Circle Family Forum. This is a group established by Palestinian and Israeli families who have lost family members to the ongoing conflict between the two peoples. The group works towards mutual understanding and conciliation. See flyer on page

The second talk is by George Washington University Prof. Nathan Brown who will provide background on the Israel-Palestine conflict while also assessing the potential for future peace. This talk will be held on Feb. 15 at 4:00 in LC108. Flyers with additional details come soon. Please make every attempt to attend both of these events.

Also check out the various internships and study abroad opportunities that appear in the newsletter, as well as the second of our series of interviews, in this case an interview with Prof. Ozler. You will also find a wonderful description of the Model EU trip to Belgium led by Prof. Dowley over the winter break.

Finally, the newsletter provides a list of important dates during the semester and the office locations and office hours of all the PSIR professors.

I wish you all a successful spring semester.

If there is any information that you would like added to future newsletters, please let us know. You can do this by contacting our assistant, Sadie Watkins, [watkinss2@newpaltz.edu](mailto:watkinss2@newpaltz.edu).

Jonathan Schwartz  
Department Chair  
Political Science & International Relations



**The PSIR Club will be holding a series of events throughout the semester. To stay informed, follow @newpaltz.psira on Instagram**

## SPRING 2024

### Important Dates

#### February 4

Last day to drop course w/o "W" grade or fee

#### February 6

Parents Circle Talk

#### February 15

Professor Nathan Brown Talk

#### February 17

NYSABPRHAL Conference & Rutgers Conference

#### February 19

President's Day - No Classes

#### March 1

Study Abroad deadline for Summer semester

#### March 15

Degree applications for August 2024 due

#### March 25-29

Spring Break

#### March 31

Last day to withdraw from courses

#### April 1

Study Abroad deadline for Fall semester and Academic Year

#### April 8

Fall 2024 Registration Opens

#### April 23

Passover - No Classes

#### May 7

Last day for S/U option

#### May 7

Last day of classes

#### May 13-17

FINAL EXAMS

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# Meet Professor İlgü Özler

By Sadie Leia Watkins



Professor İlgü Özler has been at SUNY New Paltz since 2003. She completed her doctorate in Political Science and Comparative Politics at the University of California, Los Angeles. During her time at New Paltz, she founded the United Nations Association chapter in the Mid-Hudson Valley, served as President of the UNA chapter from 2014-2017, and was a board member for Amnesty International USA from 2017-2020. She was also recently re-elected to the same board to serve from 2023-2026.

In 2004, Professor Özler began teaching the United Nations semester and has continued to today. It is a six credit course; students learn about theories that explain global governance here on campus and then travel to the United Nations in New York City to hear directly from UN officials about their functions and roles. She states, "Let's say that we, that week, are studying the security council. We might hear from somebody who works for the security council; we might go to a country [at the UN] that serves on the security council." It is a great way to provide students a hands-on experience of how the United Nations operates.

She had students asking how they could make their way to working at the United Nations. This

led her to start the Global Engagement Program in New York City. She teaches the GEP at SUNY's Global Center in Manhattan and assists students in finding internships and fully immersing themselves in learning the true fundamentals of global affairs. There are three main components to the Global Engagement program: an internship, a seminar, and an academic paper related to the internship.

Over the years, Professor Özler has built up a great deal of knowledge about the UN. The reason she continues to teach it is because the whole organization is connected to real life. She says, "It is decisions that are being made, day to day, about lives and livelihoods of people, peace, and security in the world." Whether people realize it or not, the UN is always making a difference in the modern world. Professor Özler is helping to enlighten students on that.

She encourages students to apply for the Fall 2024 Global Engagement Program in NYC. Applications are open now! Information is found at <http://newpaltz.edu/gep>, and you can also email [gep@newpaltz.edu](mailto:gep@newpaltz.edu).





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THE DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION COUNCIL AND THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES.

# Israel, Palestine, Loss and Reconciliation

**A Dialogue Meeting Featuring One Bereaved Israeli and One Bereaved Palestinian**

SUNY New Paltz is partnering with Parents Circle—Families Forum, a non-profit organization made up of Palestinian and Israeli families who have lost immediate family members due to conflict in the region. These are individuals who have made the extraordinary choice to turn to reconciliation instead of revenge, participating in events and sharing personal narratives of loss and hope.

## ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



### **BASSAM ARAMIN**

is the former Palestinian Co-director of the Parents Circle—Families Forum. He lives in Jericho in the West Bank.

He became a member of the Parents Circle in 2007 after losing his 10-year-old daughter Abir, who was killed by an Israeli border policeman in front of her school. Bassam devotes his time and energies to his conviction for a peaceful, nonviolent end to the Israeli occupation of Palestine and to Israeli-Palestinian reconciliation. He holds an MA in Holocaust studies from the University of Bradford, England.



### **ROBI DAMELIN**

spokesperson and director of International Relations for the Parents Circle—Families Forum, joined the organization after

her son was killed by a Palestinian sniper. She has devoted her life to working on the ground both in Palestine and Israel and internationally, supporting non-violence and reconciliation as a means to end the occupation. Robi regularly contributes to media outlets in Israel and abroad and was named as a 2015 Woman of Impact by Women in the World.

**TUESDAY,  
FEB. 6**

**1:30 p.m.**

**Lecture  
Center 102**

**FREE  
& OPEN  
TO THE  
PUBLIC**

**Can't make it  
in person?**

REGISTER FOR THE LIVESTREAM:



If you have accessibility questions or require accommodations to fully participate in this event, please contact please contact the Office of the Provost at [provost@newpaltz.edu](mailto:provost@newpaltz.edu).

Center for **International Programs****STUDY  
ABROAD  
FAIR**

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6TH  
10:30AM-1:00PM  
LECTURE CENTER NORTH LOBBY**

SUNY New Paltz offers a variety of programs for summer, semester, academic and calendar year, where students earn academic credits that can count for their minor, major, or General Education requirements. CIP staff and returned study abroad students will be at the fair to answer questions from students.

Students are now actively making plans to participate in summer, fall, and academic year-long programs, and even more are collaborating with academic advisors to assure that study abroad fits into their academic plans.





# **LEGISLATOR CONFERENCE**

## **Saturday, February 17th**

**This event is designed to connect young POC with state officials and there will be various different workshops and networking opportunities for students.**

**The PSIR Club will be able to provide transportation to and from the event as well as cover ticket fees.**

**More information [here!](#)**

**For additional questions or interest, contact Brandon Gonzalez, [gonzaleb16@newpaltz.edu](mailto:gonzaleb16@newpaltz.edu)**



# RUTGERS

## PRE-LAW DIVERSITY CONFERENCE

Saturday, February 17, 2024

9:30AM-5:30PM

Rutgers Law School, 217 N. Fifth Street, Camden, NJ

This dynamic event is specifically designed for college students and graduates from underrepresented backgrounds who are aspiring law students. Join us for an enriching experience that aims to share valuable information and empower students to reach their law school goals. Conference attendees will learn more about:

Law School Admissions

LSAT Preparation

Personal Statement Writing

Life as a Law Student

The Legal Profession

The conference will feature inspiring keynote speakers and panelists, interactive workshops, and provide networking opportunities that will connect students with mentors and peers who share their journey.

Students will engage in thought-provoking discussions led by accomplished legal professionals and law students who are passionate about empowering the next generation of diverse legal professionals.

**REGISTER HERE**

# VISIT WASHINGTON D.C. THIS SPRING!

March 24th-26th, 2024

Meet and speak with New Paltz  
alum who are working in D.C.!

Explore the city and visit the  
nation's landmarks

Transportation provided!

Sign-ups open early March

For more information, contact  
Professor Kassop,  
[kassopn@newpaltz.edu](mailto:kassopn@newpaltz.edu)





Universiteit  
Leiden

The Summer School 'European Union, the United Nations and Global Governance' (The Hague, June 10-14, 2024) offers a series of lectures and seminars familiarizing students with the inner workings of these two institutions and interactions between them. It allows for an interactive format with lecturers and includes several visits to institutions relevant to the Summer School's overarching theme in The Hague. The Summer School focuses on Master-level and PhD students, to allow for advanced exchanges and engaged interaction between students and teachers. In exceptional cases, it accepts Bachelor-level students with excellent academic track records. The Summer School offers engaging lectures on salient topics related to European integration and the work of the United Nations, including international peace and stability, economic and financial cooperation, the role of the G20 in global affairs, global security governance, relations between the EU and the United States, European fiscal and monetary policies, climate protection and energy. Students also visit core institutions in The Hague, such as the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the International Court of Justice (ICJ) and the International Criminal Court (ICC). As this is an advanced Summer School targeted at graduate-level students, there will be active exchanges between participants and lecturers as well as among the participants themselves. Upon successful completion of the Summer School, participants receive a certificate acknowledging their participation.

**Application due: 05/06/2024**

**Click [HERE](#) for  
more information**

# MODEL E.U. 2024

**BRUSSELS**

13 New Paltz students and Professor Kathleen Dowley travelled to Brussels, Belgium this January to participate in the annual Global Model European Union, this year hosted at Brussels School of Governance. Students from New Paltz represented 3 European Union member states in a variety of European Council meetings, representing Ireland, Poland, and Slovakia in meetings of the Heads of Government, Foreign Ministers, Environment Ministers, and Justice and Home Affairs Ministers. Additionally, students were able to visit the EU Parliamentarium on the Sunday before the simulation, and Bruges (a UNESCO world heritage site) after the simulation ended. New Paltz was joined at the simulation by teams from SUNY Albany, Buffalo, SUNY Corltand, Ithaca College, and a variety of international teams from Germany, France, Belgium, the UK, Bulgaria and Romania.

Plans are already underway for next January's Model EU which will be hosted in New York City at the SUNY Global Center. To learn more, contact Professor Dowley, [dowleyk@newpaltz.edu](mailto:dowleyk@newpaltz.edu).



## New Paltz team included:

Carolyn Weinstein, Luke Beaver, Ron Matthews, Veronica Monteverdi, Jacqueline Avignone, Quincy Jackson, Nayise Gonzalez, Martin Renato Gonzales Podesta, Kerith McGarry, Maricarmen Sosa Gil, Emily Clayton, Victoria Titarenko, and Kanae Hirao



# Update from Students In D.C.

## from October 2023



We as SUNY New Paltz students are just about halfway through our semester in D.C., and we wanted to share some of our experiences thus far. We have all secured different internships in the Capitol, for which we are receiving credits, and, perhaps most importantly, valuable professional skills.

Among the multitude of positions secured, three specific positions from New Paltz students are at the America-Eurasia center (Isabella Iacona, Political Science), the Kluge Center at the Library of Congress (Jonathan Pickarski, International Relations) and at the Baptist Joint Committee (Jen Knox, Political Science). Our tasks as interns include research, writing newsletters and papers, representing our organizations at important events, and standard office tasks. Our experience is supplemented by weekly visits at fascinating and unique establishments, which, without fail, always prove to be interesting.

Aside from the ole' 9-5, there are many chances for us to explore the wide range of activities this city has to offer. Our afternoons can be spent attending interesting lectures (the most recent being a discussion with the Ukrainian Prosecutor-General Andriy Kostin), frequenting our favorite bookstores, supporting local musicians at underground music venues, and just seeing what the city streets have in store.

The semester so far has truly been transformative. The invaluable life experience we've gained on and off the job has earned us a new sense of independence that we only hope to see flourish as the semester closes, and the connections we have established will ensure that following its end, we will have some more work to do. We are incredibly grateful to our professors at SUNY New Paltz who have helped us work toward this opportunity, and we hope to see more students take advantage of this program.



**Job Description:** The New York State Democratic Committee seeks **college fellows** to join our efforts to increase youth voter participation across the state. College fellows will be responsible for organizing their own campuses in an unprecedented, year-round initiative. Ideal candidates will be highly motivated, creative thinkers who are dedicated to electing Democrats up and down the ballot.

College Organizers will:

- Hit defined field goals, including traditional grassroots voter contact metrics
- Identify and help oversee college volunteers, including dorm captains
- Participate and help execute regular civic engagement events, information sessions, tabling, etc.
- Work closely with College Democrats chapters and other progressive, on-campus clubs

Ideal Experience and Characteristics:

- Creativity and a willingness to think outside the box
- Highly organized work style; a strong ability to multitask and communicate effectively
- A strong ability to demonstrate cultural competence and the skills needed to work meaningfully with those who are culturally different from the self; a commitment to fostering a positive working environment grounded in the ideals of diversity, equity and inclusion
- Strong interpersonal skills, especially the ability to build relationships, listen, collaborate, and lead with respect and professionalism

**Pay:** Campus fellows will earn \$15/hour for their work.

The New York State Democratic Party is an equal opportunity organization and we do not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, creed, national origin, non-disqualifying disability, gender identity or expression, familial status, genetic information, veteran status, military status, or upon any other characteristic protected by applicable federal, state or local law.

\*\*\*To apply please send a resume and cover letter to \*\*\*

**Tristan Telesfort (845) 282-9450**



# ROCKLAND CONSERVATION CORPS

## NOW HIRING FOR SUMMER 2024






### ABOUT US:

Enjoy your summer with Rockland Conservation and Service Corps! A program of the Rockland County Youth Bureau, members are provided with a wide range of experiential training, service, professional development and leadership opportunities in the conservation & environmental fields. Join for an opportunity to have an adventure with purpose!

### TYPES OF PROJECTS

-  Water Conservation
-  Land Conservation
-  Invasive Species Management
-  Environmental Education
-  And More!

### CONTACT US

-  845-364-2937
-  rcsc@co.rockland.ny.us
-  rcconservation

**AmeriCorps**

ROCKLAND CONSERVATION SERVICE CORPS

**SCAN ME FOR AN APPLICATION!**

### PROGRAM DETAILS

**IMPORTANT DATES**  
**12 Week Program****Application Deadline:** April 12, 2024**Start Date:** May 20th, 2024**End Date:** August 9th, 2024**QUALIFICATIONS****Available for a fulltime position****Ages 18-25 (out of high school)****Must enjoy the outdoors & environmental issues!****BENEFITS****Environmental Fieldwork****Professional Networking****Education Award \$1,459.26****Stipend of \$3,500****Career Insight**

# Job Opportunity

## Summary

A competitive mid-Hudson Valley Democratic campaign is currently seeking a part-time Voter Contact Organizer for the June 25 primary election. This part-time, entry-level position will be based in Poughkeepsie and will be an in-person (and often outdoor) work environment reporting to the Field Director. As a key component of our campaign field operations, the Voter Contact Organizer will be a friendly, persuasive, and outgoing individual comfortable with and responsible for engaging in face-to-face conversation with voters.

## Responsibilities

- Canvass voters to identify campaign supporters, provide accurate information about the candidate and upcoming election, and meet daily voter contact goals.
- Collect and enter reliable canvass data, in adherence to campaign data standards.
- Track and execute needed follow-up with canvassed voters.
- Report voter feedback and opinion to inform campaign messaging development; maintain active communication with the field team and attend regular team meetings.

## Qualifications

- Comfort talking to voters and ability to spend 5 hours/shift working on your feet.
- Punctual, well organized, self-motivated, passionate about Democratic politics.
- Access to a smartphone and reliable transportation.
- Ability to work weekends and afternoons.
- *Prior experience with canvassing or political work is welcomed but not required.*

## Details

This part-time position will require five work shifts a week totalling 25 hrs/week. The Voter Contact Organizer will be paid \$2,500/month. Interested applicants should send their **resume** and **references** to [joe@metrostrategiesllc.com](mailto:joe@metrostrategiesllc.com). Please include "Voter Contact Organizer" in the subject line and at the top of your email in bold.



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ADDICTION AND OVERDOSE PREVENTION

THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK



**MICHELLE HINCHEY**  
Senator, 41<sup>ST</sup> District

**ALBANY OFFICE:**  
902 LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BLDG.  
ALBANY, NEW YORK 12247  
PHONE: (518) 455-2350  
FAX: (518) 426-6751

**DISTRICT OFFICE:**  
721 BROADWAY, STE. 150  
KINGSTON, NEW YORK 12401  
PHONE: (845) 331-3810  
FAX: (845) 331-2083

**E-MAIL ADDRESS:**  
HINCHEY@NYSenate.GOV

Good afternoon!

Thank you for your interest in applying for an internship with the Offices of NYS Senator Michelle Hinchey! My name is Alexandria but you can call me Alex; I am the intern coordinator for Senator Hinchey's office. Below is more information about the internship and *there is a google form at the end of this email which I ask that you fill out if you are interested in interning with us.* Additionally, please share your resume as an attachment either via the application form or separately by email to [wojcik@nysenate.gov](mailto:wojcik@nysenate.gov).

- Internships in our office can be for credit or volunteer. For volunteer interns, we ask a minimum of 5 hours a week during the fall/winter/spring, or 10 hours a week in the summer in order for you to get the most of this experience. For interns receiving academic credit, please include your department/program, the number of hours required for your program, and any other requirements. Additionally, please provide what availability works best for you in the [google form](#) (please use the short answers to fill in the gaps if the multiple choice options don't fit your schedule).
- Our District Office is located in Kingston. The office's hours are Monday through Friday 9am to 5pm. Depending on individual situations, remote opportunities may still be available, but the work hours would be the same.

Continued on next page...

- Interns can focus on a few different areas -- communications, legislation/policy, or community outreach/local issues. A short description of each is below and on the attached form, please let us know your area(s) of preference.

- a. Communications -- work closely with our communications manager to help her track press hits, draft constituent correspondence, keep our press list up-to-date, identify upcoming events in the community to promote on social and in newsletters, and more.

- b. Legislation/Policy -- work closely with staff to draft background memos on relevant policy

- c. Community Outreach/Local Issues -- work closely with our constituent services team to get background on district specific issues, respond and speak to constituents about important issues and plan community events.

- Sometimes there will be events outside of normal business hours, which we will let you know about and would love to have you attend.

- Dress Code is business casual, though for events you may be required to dress business formal -- or dress totally down -- like for a stream clean-up event.

[Here is the google form.](#) Please fill this out if you are interested in applying to intern, and we will take it from there! Next steps would include an interview at a time that works for us both. Of course do not hesitate to reach out with questions or concerns in the meantime. Thank you!





## PSIR Faculty Office Hours-Spring 2024

Welcome to the Department of Political Science and International Relations!

PROFESSOR	PHONE/EMAIL	DAYS	TIMES	OFFICE
Jonathan Schwartz-Chair	845 257 2627 schwartzj@newpaltz.edu	Mondays Thursdays and by appointment	10:00am-12:00pm 9:00am-11:00am	JFT 816
Kathleen Dowley	845 257 3558 dowleyk@newpaltz.edu	Tuesdays Wednesdays	3:15pm-4:15pm 10:00am-12:00pm	JFT 514 SCB 133
Nancy Kassop	845 257 3544 kassopn@newpaltz.edu	Tuesdays Wednesdays and by appointment	10:00am-12:00pm 9:00am-11:00am	FOB W8
Joel Lefkowitz	845 257 3792 lefkowij@newpaltz.edu	Mondays Wednesdays Thursdays	5:00pm-6:30pm 5:00pm-6:30pm 5:00pm-6:00pm and by appointment	FOB W6
Daniel Lipson	845 257 3543 lipsond@newpaltz.edu	Mondays Thursdays and by appointment	10:00am-12:00pm 12:00pm-2:00pm	SCB 135
Jeff Miller	845 257 3934 millerj@newpaltz.edu	Mondays Wednesdays Thursdays and by appointment	3:30pm-4:30pm 11:00am-12:00pm 3:30pm-4:30pm	JFT 920
Scott Minkoff	845 257 3541 minkoffs@newpaltz.edu		On Leave	
S. Ilgu Ozler	845 257 2635 ozleri@newpaltz.edu	Tuesdays	11:00am-3:00pm	SCB 134
Stephen Pampinella	845 257 3549 pampines@newpaltz.edu	Mondays Thursdays	2:00pm-4:00pm 9:30am-10:30am	JFT 522
Eric Bein*	beine@newpaltz.edu	virtual	Email for Appointment	
Tassiana Moura de Oliveira*	mouradet@newpaltz.edu	virtual	Email for Appointment	

The Administrative Assistant, Jen Freer can be reached via email at [freerj@newpaltz.edu](mailto:freerj@newpaltz.edu)