

Contributor Biographies

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Elliot Bartky is an assistant professor of Political Science at Indiana University - Purdue University Fort Wayne where he teaches courses on the presidency, religion and politics, and political philosophy. He earned his Ph.D. from Rutgers University in 1983. Bartky's article, "Puritanism and the Political-Theological Problem," is included in this volume of the *IJPS*.

Toni R. Brink, co-author of "Meltdowns, Cover-ups and Mutants: Pop Culture's Perversion of Nuclear Energy," recently completed her Master of Arts in Liberal Studies at the University of Southern Indiana, where she also completed her Bachelor of Arts in International Studies and French. Through her education she studied abroad in France, England, and Switzerland and speaks French and German. Brink is Graduate Research Assistant with the Office of Planning, Research, and Assessment at the University of Southern Indiana and has participated in a variety of independent research projects. Her research interests include: Game Theory, Nuclear Policy, International Education, and Conflict Studies.

Andrew Downs, author of "The Effects of the Demolition of Vacant and Abandoned Houses on Adjoining Property Conditions and Assessed Values," is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at IPFW and the Director of the Mike Downs Center for Indiana Politics. The Mike Downs Center is a non-partisan organization devoted to helping the people of Indiana understand the role of politics and government in their daily lives. Downs has previously published two articles in the *IJPS*: "The Effects of Early Voting on the Electorate in Allen County, Indiana" (Volume 12) and "The Missing 3,847 Voters: Strategic Voting in a Congressional Primary" (with Michael R. Wolf, Volume 10). He will assume the role of *IJPS* editor in Fall 2011.

Mary Hallock Morris has served as the editor of the *IJPS* since 2007. An associate professor of political science at the University of Southern Indiana, Hallock Morris is the vice-president of the Indiana Political Science Association and serves as the webmistress for the IPSA's website, located at <http://www.indianapsa.org/>. She is currently working on a book about the political history of wetland loss in coastal Louisiana. Hallock Morris has previously published two articles in the *IJPS*: "Learn by Doing: Service Learning Projects as a Pedagogical Tool for Teaching Research Methods" (Volume 12) and "The Influence of Gender, Race, and Party Identification on Attitudes about Global Warming" (with J. Robert Shrode, Volume 11).

James Michael Iddins, author of "John Hughes May Be onto Something: Anti-Authoritarianism in Education, Film and Policy," is an independent scholar of American Culture. He is currently in the process of finishing his graduate studies at Valparaiso University. Iddins specializes in propaganda, persuasion, and controversial issues. He is the author of many short stories and essays, all of which can be read on his weekly blog, *Sex...and Other Four Letter Words* (<http://sexandotherfourletterwords.wordpress.com>). He lives in Chesterton, Indiana with his partner, Danielle, and their cat, Chooch.

Michelle Rundle received her Master in Public Administration from the University of Southern Indiana, where she also graduated with B.A. in Political Science and International Studies. Rundle gained research experience as a Research Associate at the University of Southern Indiana's Office of Planning, Research. She currently is a Test Author with comScore ARS.

Rundle's co-authored article, "Meltdowns, Cover-ups and Mutants: Pop Culture's Perversion of Nuclear Energy," is included in this volume of the *IJPS*.

Pamela M. Schaal is currently an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Ball State University where she teaches Congress, Interest Groups and Public Policy courses. She earned her Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana with a specialization in American and Comparative Politics. Her research interests involve fiscal federalism and the conditions for effective policy deliberation within American institutions. Before academia, she spent several years in Washington, DC working for various think tanks, contractors and Capitol Hill offices. Her article, "Fiscal Federalism: The Effects of Divided vs. Unified Government on the Distribution of Federal Aid in Criminal Justice," is included in this volume of the *IJPS*.

Darren A. Wheeler, author of "Methodological, Theoretical and Topical Challenges in Judicial Implementation and Impact Studies," is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Ball State University where he teaches courses in Public Law and the Presidency. His research interests focus on civil liberties in the War on Terror and the implementation of judicial decisions.

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