

## Dr. phil. Bettina Koch M.A. – Curriculum Vitae

---

Associate Professor of Political Science/ASPECT  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
Department of Political Science and International Studies  
507 Major Williams Hall (0130)  
220 Stanger Street  
Blacksburg, VA 24060  
Phone: +1-540-231-5766  
Email: bkoch@vt.edu  
**Preferred Email:** dr.bettina.koch@gmx.net  
Webpage: <http://www.bettinakoch.net>

### Research Interests:

---

Western and non-Western political theory, including Arab and Persian, Latin American, and Indian political and cultural thought; history of political ideas; comparative political theory more generally; issues related to the interaction of politics and religion; political violence in transcultural comparison; the concept of terrorism as a topic in political theory; state decline and state failure; mass surveillance related topics; state terrorism.

### Editorial Activities:

---

*E-International Relations* Board Member

ATINER: Head of Politics & International Affairs Research Unit (<http://www.atiner.gr/politics-unit>), 1 July 2016 - 30 June 2019.

### Education:

---

February 2004	<b>Dr. phil.</b> (Ph.D.), Political Science, Hochschule Vechta.
October 1997	<b>M.A.</b> , Medieval and Modern History/Political Science, Westfälische Wilhelms-Universität Münster.

### Academic Employment:

---

June 2012 - Present	Associate Professor, Department of Political Science and International Studies, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
July 2016 – June 2017	Caltech-Huntington Humanities Collaborations Fellow, California Institute of Technology and Huntington Library
July 2016 – June 2017	Caltech Visiting Associate in the Humanities, California Institute of Technology

---

June 2015	Visiting Professor, TU Darmstadt, Department of Political Science
August 2006 - May 2012	Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science and International Studies, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
April 2002 - March 2006	Lecturer, Department of Political Science, Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg
Feb. 2004 - May 2004	Researcher, Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg, Department of Political Science/Research Pool
June 2001 - Nov. 2003	Researcher, Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg, Department of Political Science/Hannah Arendt-Zentrum
Nov. 1997 - May 2001	Research Assistant, Institute for Comparative Urban History, Münster
March - Oct. 1997	Student Research Assistant, Institute for Comparative Urban History, Münster
April 1993 - Feb. '97	Student Research and Teaching Assistant, University of Münster, Department of History

### *Teaching:*

---

#### *At TU Darmstadt*

- Religion & Political Conflict (graduate seminar, Summer 2015)

#### *At Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University:*

- PSCI 2014: Introduction to Political Theory
- PSCI/PHIL 3015: Political Theory from Plato to the Seventeenth Century
- PSCI/PHIL 3016: Political Theory from the Seventeenth Century to the Present
- PSCI 3874: Origins of the State
- IS 4004: Senior Seminar International Studies
- PSCI 4724: Senior Seminar in Political Theory
- PSCI 4974: Independent Study
- IS 4974: Independent Study
- PSCI 4994: Undergraduate Research
- PSCI 5504: Discourse Analysis
- ASPT 5984: Pre-Modern Christian and Islamic Political Theory
- ASPT 5984/ PSCI 4724: Issues in Comparative Political Theory (CPT)
- ASPT 5984/ PSCI 4724: From Ibn Taymiyya to the Islamic State
- ASPT 6204: Religion and Conflict (with Nicole Ni and Rachel Scott)
- ASPT 6204: Islamic Conceptions of Justice (with Rachel Scott)
- ASPT 6124/PSCI 6234: Pre-Modern Christian and Islamic Political Theory

**At Carl von Ossietzky University, Oldenburg:**

1<sup>st</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> semester students (Grundstudium):

- Ancient Political Theory: Plato – Aristotle – Cicero
- Key Issues in Medieval Political Thought
- Introduction to Modern Political Theory
- Political Theories of Federalism: Althusius and the Federalist Papers
- American Political Theory: Introduction to Contemporary Issues
- Introduction to Islamic Political Thought

Advanced students (Hauptstudium):

- Theories of Justice
- Theories of Resistance in Western and Islamic Political Thought

**Publications:****Monographs:**

- *Patterns Legitimizing Political Violence in Transcultural Perspectives: Islamic and Christian Traditions and Legacies* (Berlin/Boston: De Gruyter, 2015), ISBN 978-1614515661.
- Paperback edition *Patterns Legitimizing Political Violence in Transcultural Perspectives: Islamic and Christian Traditions and Legacies* (Berlin/Boston: De Gruyter, 2016) ISBN 978-1614515777.

Reviewed:

Michael Kinzer, *The Middle East Journal* 69:4 (2015): 652.

Paola Bernardini, *The Review of Politics* 79:1 (2017): 161-163.

Benedetto Fontana, *SCTIW Review*, April 18, 2017,

<http://sctiw.org/sctiwreviewarchives/archives/1439>.

Thomas O. Hueglin, *History of Political Thought* 38:4 (2017):771-773.

- *Zur Dis-/Kontinuität mittelalterlichen politischen Denkens in der neuzeitlichen politischen Theorie: Marsilius von Padua, Johannes Althusius und Thomas Hobbes im Vergleich* (Beiträge zur Politischen Wissenschaft 137; Duncker & Humblot: Berlin, 2005).

Reviewed:

John von Heyking, "The Medieval and the Modern," *The Review of Politics* 68:2 (2006): 356-359.

Jürgen Miethke, *Deutsches Archiv für Erforschung des Mittelalters* 62:1 (2006): 464-465.

Martin Fabjancic, *Das Historisch-Politische Buch* 54:5 (2006): 525-526.

Volker Leppin, *Zeitschrift für Historische Forschung* 43:1 (2007): 98-99.

Dirk Lüddecke, *Freiburger Zeitschrift für Philosophie und Theologie/Review of Philosophy and Theology of Fribourg* 54:1 (2007): 296-301.

Manfred Walther, *Der Staat* 51:2 (2012): 290-295.

**Edited Volumes:**

- Forthcoming: Bettina Koch and Cary J. Nederman (eds.), *Inventing Modernity in Medieval European Thought, c. 1100 – c. 1450, Festschrift for Thomas M. Izbicki* (Arc Humanities Press & Medieval Institute Publications, [2018]).

- In preparation: Bettina Koch and Ioannis A. Stivachtis (eds.), *Discord and Collaboration in the Middle East*.

- *Selected Topics in Social Sciences*, ed. Bettina Koch, Fevronia Soumakis & Teresa Cierco Gomes (Athens: Athens Institute for Education & Research, 2016).
- *State Terror, State Violence – Global Perspectives*, ed. Bettina Koch (Springer: Wiesbaden, 2016).
- *Totalitäre Herrschaft und republikanische Demokratie. 50 Jahre ‘The Origins of Totalitarianism’ von Hannah Arendt*, ed. Antonia Grunenberg, with the assistance of Stefan Ahrens and Bettina Koch (Hannah-Arendt Studien 1; Peter Lang: Frankfurt/M., New York, 2003).

### *Book Chapters and Journal Articles:*

- In preparation: “Violence and Disorder? Origins of Violence in Premodern Eastern and Western Mediterranean Discourses.”
- In preparation: “*Hākimiyya* Contested: Past Experiences and Contemporary Debates on the Quest for an Islamic State.”
- In preparation: “Narratives of Belonging in Twentieth Century Islamic Political Thought,” in *Narratives of Belonging: Global Discourses in Comparative Political Theory*, ed. by Hartmut Behr and Felix Roesch (Palgrave).
- Under review: “Unmasking ‘Religious’ Conflicts and Religious Radicalization in the Middle East.”
- Under Review: “Islamic Theology and Jurisprudence Applied: State Theory and the Quest for a Religious State.”
- Forthcoming: “Introduction: Inventing Modernity” (with Cary J. Nederman), in *Inventing Modernity in Medieval European Thought, c. 1100 – c. 1450 [Festschrift for Thomas M. Izbicki]*, ed. by Bettina Koch and Cary J. Nederman (Arc Humanities Press & Medieval Institute Publications, [2018]).
- Forthcoming: “*Defensor Pacis* Transformed: Marsilian Ideas in Sixteenth Century Politics,” in *Inventing Modernity in Medieval European Thought, c. 1100 – c. 1450 [Festschrift for Thomas M. Izbicki]*, ed. by Bettina Koch and Cary J. Nederman (Arc Humanities Press & Medieval Institute Publications, [2018]).
- “Das monarchische *arcana imperii* Prinzip versus das demokratische Transparenzprinzip: Zum Verhältnis von Staat und bürgerlicher Freiheit nach Snowden,” in *Staatsgeheimnisse: Arkanpolitik im Wandel der Zeiten*, ed. Rüdiger Voigt (Springer: Wiesbaden, 2017), 111-130.
- “US-Drone Strikes: Acts of Terror, Violence, or Coercion?” In *State Terror, State Violence – Global Perspectives* (Springer: Wiesbaden, 2016), 151-170.
- “Terror, Violence, Coercion: States and the Use of (Il)legitimate Force,” in *State Terror, State Violence – Global Perspectives* (Springer: Wiesbaden, 2016), 1-10.
- “Citizenship in the Age of Global Surveillance: Some Observations on a Transforming State-Citizen Relationship,” in *Deconstructing Global Citizenship: Political, Cultural, and Ethical Perspectives*, ed. Hassan Bashir and Phillip W. Gray (Lanham: Lexington, 2015), 77-97.
- “Against Empire? John of Paris’s Defence of Territorial Secular Power Considered in the Context of Dante’s and Marsilius of Padua’s Political Theories,” in *John of Paris: Beyond Royal and Papal Power*, ed. Chris Jones (Turnhout, Belgium: Brepols, 2015), 49-74.

- “Religious Dissent in Premodern Islam: Political Usage of Heresy and Apostasy in Nizam al-Mulk and Ibn Taymiyya,” in *Religion, Power and Resistance from the Eleventh to the Sixteenth Centuries: Playing the Heresy Card*, ed. Karen Bollermann, Thomas M. Izbicki, and Cary J. Nederman (Houndmills: Palgrave Macmillan, 2014), 215-236.
- “Liberation Theologies, Periphery Existence, and Global Challenges: Towards a Transcultural Ideology of Liberation,” *Athens Journal of Social Sciences* 1:3 (2014): 173-184.
- “Johannes von Salisbury und die Nizari Ismailiten unter Terrorismusverdacht: Zur kritischen Bewertung eines Aspekts in der aktuellen Terrorismusdebatte,” *Zeitschrift für Rechtsphilosophie* 11:2 (2013): 18-38.
- “Religious Freedom and Majority Rule: Marsilius of Padua “on” Abdullahi Ahmed an-Na’im and the “Secular” Islamic State,” *Politics & Religion* 6:1 (2013): 121-144.
- “Priestly Despotism: The Problem of Unruly Clerics in Marsilius of Padua’s *Defensor Pacis*,” *Journal of Religious History* 36:2 (2012): 165-183.
- “Church and State in Marsilius’s Writings,” in *Companion to Marsilius of Padua*, ed. Cary J. Nederman and Gerson Moreno-Riaño (Leiden: Brill, 2012), 139-179.
- “Yesterday’s Tyrannicide, Today’s Terrorist? Historic Acts of ‘Terror’ in Islam and in the West in Light of the Contemporary Debates on Terrorism,” in *International Relations, Culture and Global Finance*, ed. Akis Kalaitzidis (Athens: ATINER, 2011), 111-126.
- “Aegidius Romanus,” in *Handbuch Staatsdenker*, ed. Rüdiger Voigt and Ulrich Weiß (Stuttgart: Franz Steiner, 2010), 13b-15b.
- “Nicolaus Cusanus,” in *Handbuch Staatsdenker*, ed. Rüdiger Voigt and Ulrich Weiß (Stuttgart: Franz Steiner, 2010), 93b-95a.
- “Marsilius of Padua (c. 1275/80-1342/3),” in *Encyclopedia of Political Theory*, ed. Mark Bevir and Caroline Humfress (Sage: Thousand Oaks, 2010), vol. 2, 853b-855a.
- “Pufendorf, Samuel von (1632-1694),” in *Encyclopedia of Political Theory*, ed. Mark Bevir and Caroline Humfress (Sage: Thousand Oaks, 2010), vol. 3, 1125b-1127a.
- “Johannes Althusius: Between Secular Federalism and the Religious State,” in *The Ashgate Research Companion to Federalism*, ed. Ann and Lee Ward (Aldershot: Ashgate, 2009), 75-90.
- “A Medieval Muslim-Christian Lesson on Political and Economic Liberalization,” *Journal of Chinese, Indian, and Islamic Cultural Relations*, 2 (2008): 157-187.
- “Marsilius and Hobbes on Religion and Papal Power: Some Observations on Similarities,” in *The World of Marsilius of Padua: The Life and Thought of a Medieval Political Thinker*, ed. Gerson Moreno-Riaño (Disputatio 5; Turnhout, Belgium: Brepols, 2006), 189-209.
- “Althusius & die Likedeeler: Zu Möglichkeiten der Konfliktlösung zwischen dem Streben nach Landesherrschaft und kommunaler Selbstverwaltung,” in *Störtebeker – 600 Jahre nach seinem Tod*, ed. Wilfried Ehbrecht (Hansische Studien XV; Trier: Porta-Alba, 2005), 239-252.
- “Ein Dadaist auf der Suche nach dem *neuen* Menschen: Hugo Ball zwischen Wissenschafts- und Gesellschaftskritik und katholischen Mystizismus,” in *Einsprüche: Politik und Sozialstaat im 20.*

*Jahrhundert. Festschrift für Gerhard Kraiker*, ed. Antonia Grunenberg (Politica 64; Kovač, Hamburg, 2005), 115-127.

- “Religion as a Principle of Political Order? Comparing Marsilius of Padua and Johannes Althusius,” in *Jurisprudenz, politische Theorie und politische Theologie: Beiträge des Herborner Symposions zum 400. Jahrestag der Politica des Johannes Althusius 1603-2003*, ed. Frederick S. Carney, Heinz Schilling, and Dieter Wyduckel (Beiträge zur Politischen Wissenschaft 131; Berlin: Duncker & Humblot, 2004), 23-46.
- “Zum mittelalterlichen Politikverständnis: Die *Civitas* als Fokus des Politischen im *Defensor Pacis* des Marsilius von Padua?” In *Klassische Politik: Politikverständnisse von der Antike bis ins 19. Jahrhundert*, ed. Hans J. Lietzmann and Peter Nitschke (Lehrtexte Politik; Leske & Budrich: Opladen, 2000), 49-69.

### Book Reviews:

- Martin J. Cable, “*Cum essem in Constantie . . .*”: Raffaele Fulgosio and the Council of Constance 1414–1415 (Leiden and Boston: Brill, 2015), *Speculum* 92:4 (2017): 1168–1170.
- Bettina Koch, Review of *Radical Future Pasts: Untimely Political Theory*, *SCTIW Review*, October 29, 2015. <http://sctiw.org/sctiwreviewarchives/archives/778> (peer reviewed).
- Nicolas L. Paul, *To Follow in Their Footsteps: The Crusades and Family Memory in the High Middle Ages* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2012) *al-Masāq: Islam and the Medieval Mediterranean* 27:2 (2015): 181-183.
- Safdar Ahmed, *Reform and Modernity in Islam: The Philosophical, Cultural and Political Discourses among Muslim Reformers* (London: I. B. Tauris, 2013), *The Middle East Journal* 68:1 (2014): 184-185.
- *Marsilius of Padua: The Defender of the Peace*, ed. and trans. Annabel Brett (Cambridge Texts in the History of Political Thought; Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005), *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 40:2 (2007): 544-546.
- “The Battlefield of Minds?” Review of “Peter Hoeres, *Krieg der Philosophen: Die deutsche und die britische Philosophie im Ersten Weltkrieg* (Paderborn: Schöningh, 2004),” *The Review of Politics* 67:4 (2005): 792-794.
- “Liberal Realism.” Review of “Frederick G. Whelan, *Hume and Machiavelli: Political Realism and Liberal Thought* (Lanham: Lexington Books, 2004),” *The Review of Politics* 67:2 (2005): 366-368.
- “Theories of Property in Transcultural Perspective: John Locke, Premodern Islamic Thought, and Contemporary Water Conflicts.”

### Conference Papers and Guest Lectures:

---

- “Order Contested: Origins of Violence in Premodern Eastern and Western Mediterranean Discourses,” invited appearance *Violence and Order Past and Present*, Château de la Bretesche, Missillac, France, June 24-27, 2018.
- “*Hākimiyya* Contested: Past Experiences and Contemporary Debates on the Quest for an Islamic State,” invited appearance *Narratives of Order: Rethinking Global Political Thought*, Central European University, Budapest, May 24-26, 2018.
- “Mehr-Ebenen Security Governance: Normative, ideologische und praktische Herausforderungen,” Universität Bremen, August 9, 2017.
- “Ignacio Ellacuría on Countering State Violence with Violence,” University of California at Riverside, May 31, 2017.
- “Mapping Security: Innere Sicherheit und Terrorismus als ethisches und empirisches Problem,” Leibniz Universität Hannover, Institut für Politische Wissenschaft, May 22, 2017.
- “The Nizari Isma‘ilis—A Terrorist Threat?,” California Institute of Technology, May 2, 2017.
- “Ibn Khaldun and Machiavelli: A Project in Comparative Political Theory,” Long-term Fellows Working Group, The Huntington, San Marino, CA, March 15, 2017.
- “Islamic Theology and Jurisprudence Applied: State Theory in the Advice for Kings Literature,” invited paper for the conference *Philosophy and Law: Islamic and Jewish Thought in the Shadow of Theology and Theocracy*, Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, February 14-16, 2017.
- “Violence in History and in Contemporary Conflicts: Why History Matter’s for Today’s Politics,” California Institute of Technology, October 17, 2016.
- “Method and Episteme: On Ibn Khaldun’s and Machiavelli’s Methodological Approaches,” 2016 *APSA Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia, September 1-4, 2016.
- “Wasserkonflikte im Horizont transkultureller Eigentumsverständnisse,” Leibniz Universität Hannover, Institut für Politische Wissenschaft, July 11, 2016.
- “Doing it without Natural Law: Locke’s Theory of Property in Twelfth Century Islam,” paper accepted for the *51st International Congress on Medieval Studies*, Kalamazoo, MI, May 12-15, 2016. Withdrawn.
- “Staat unter Verschluss: Der informierte Bürger als neues Sicherheitsrisiko,” 26th DVPW Kongress *Vorsicht Sicherheit! Legitimationsprobleme der Ordnung von Freiheit*, Duisburg, September 21-25, 2015.
- “Trading-off? (Religions-)Freiheit versus Sicherheit als ethisches und empirisches Problem,” 26th DVPW Kongress *Vorsicht Sicherheit! Legitimationsprobleme der Ordnung von Freiheit*, Duisburg, September 21-25, 2015.

- “Private Property in Transcultural Perspective: On Generating Private Property in Medieval Muslim Mirrors for Princes (*Nasīhatnāme*),” *Australian & New Zealand Association for Medieval & Early Modern Studies* Biennial Conference, University of Queensland, Brisbane, July 14-18, 2015.
- “Medieval Jewish Philosophy between Transcultural Engagement and Defense of Tradition: Re-assessing Sa’adya Ga’on,” *50th International Congress on Medieval Studies*, Kalamazoo, MI, May 14–17, 2015.
- “Creating Strangeness? ‘The West’ and ‘The Other’ Between Polemics and Epistemological Limitations,” *Strangers, Aliens, and Foreigner*, November 1-3, 2014, Prague, Czech Republic.
- “Liberation Theologies, Periphery Existence, and Global Challenges: Towards a Transcultural Ideology of Liberation,” *12th Annual International Conference on Politics & International Affairs*, Athens, Greece, June 16-19, 2014.
- “Religionsverfassung—Gegenverfassung oder Parallelverfassung?,” Universität Hamburg, May 26, 2014.
- “Liberation Theologies and Periphery Ethics,” *(Re)Thinking Global Connectedness: Critical Perspectives on Globalization* conference, Texas A&M University at Qatar, January 26-28, 2014.
- “Töte sie, wo immer Du sie finden kannst – Häresie und Apostasie im Islam oder: von der Aktualität mittelalterlicher Rechtsauslegung,” Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-Universität Greifswald, June 11, 2013.
- “Apostasie und Legitimität im Islam – zum zweifelhaften politischen Nutzen eines (religiösen) Machtinstruments,” Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, June 5, 2013.
- “Ibn Khaldun and Machiavelli on the Autonomy of Politics,” *2012 NPSA Annual Meeting*, Boston, November 15-17, 2012.
- “Political Assassinations in Premodern Islam,” *2012 The Renaissance Society of America* annual meeting, Washington, D.C., March 22-24, 2012.
- “Ibn Khaldun and Modernity: History, Religion, and Power,” *2011 NPSA Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 17-19, 2011.
- “Religion und die Legitimität von Gewalt im Islam,” Universität Osnabrück, June 27, 2011.
- “Apostasy in Medieval Islam and Today: A Political Interpretation,” *36th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Medieval Association*, Roanoke, VA, November 18-20, 2010.
- “Political Theory as Political Practice: Ibn Khaldun and Niccolò Machiavelli on History and Fate,” *2010 NPSA Annual Meeting*, Boston, November 11-13, 2010.
- “Religion and Resistance: Religious Justifications of Rebellion and Oppression in Medieval Christianity and Islam Compared,” *Pacific Coast Branch American Historical Association Meeting “Moving Beyond National, Cultural, & Disciplinary Boundaries,”* August 12-14, 2010, Santa Clara, California.
- “Yesterday’s Tyrannicide, Today’s Terrorist? Historic Acts of ‘Terror’ in Islam and in the West in Light of the Contemporary Debates on Terrorism,” *The Graduate School “Society and Culture in Motion,”* Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg, July 1, 2010.



- "Wahlhindernisse: Beobachtungen zu den 2008 US-Präsidentenwahlen," Universität Osnabrück, July 10, 2009.
- "Against Empire: John of Paris's Defense of Territorial Secular Power in the Light of Dante's and Marsilius of Padua's Political Theories," *2010 International Medieval Congress (IMC)*, Leeds, July 12-15, 2010.
- "Yesterday's Tyrannicide, Today's Terrorist? Historic Acts of 'Terror' in Islam and in the West in Light of the Contemporary Debates on Terrorism," *8th Annual International Conference on Politics & International Affairs*, Athens, Greece, June 21-24, 2010.
- "Fourteenth Century Western Political Theory and the Search for the Secular Islamic State: Marsilius of Padua 'on' Abdullahi Ahmed an-Na'im," *ASPECT Working Paper Series*, Cranwell International Center, Virginia Tech, December 8, 2009.
- "Fourteenth Century Christian Political Theory Meets the Search for the Secular Islamic State: Marsilius of Padua 'on' Abdullahi Ahmed an-Na'im," *2009 NPSA Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia, November 19-21, 2009.
- "Exploiting Religion for Political Ends: Accusations of Heresy as Political Instrument," *2009 APT Conference*, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas, October 22-24, 2009.
- "Heretic Rulers, Heretic Rebels: Heresy in Medieval Islamic Mirrors for Princes and Other Writings," *2009 International Medieval Congress (IMC)*, Leeds, July 13-16, 2009.
- "The State of Imperfection in Premodern Islamic Political Thought," *2008 NPSA Annual Meeting*, Boston, November 13-15, 2008.
- "Premodern Theories of Resistance: Middle Eastern and Western Approaches," *2008 APSA Annual Meeting*, Boston, August 28-31, 2008.
- "Doctrines of Resistance and Obedience in Medieval Christian and Muslim Political Thought," *NPSA Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia, November 15-17, 2007.
- "The State of Imperfection in Early Muslim Political Thought," *2007 Association for Political Theory Conference (APT)*, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, October 11-14, 2007.
- "Power and Its Limits in Medieval Christian and Muslim Political Thought," *Medieval and Renaissance Studies Faculty Research Seminar*, Virginia Tech, September 14, 2007.
- "*God is the Absolute Sovereign*: On Religion and Power (and Its Limits) in Early Muslim and Christian Political Thought," *APSA Annual Meeting*, Chicago, August 30 - September 2, 2007.
- "Teaching and Research at Virginia Tech. German and American Experiences Compared," *Political Science Research Colloquium*, Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg, July 5, 2007.
- "A Medieval Muslim-Christian Lesson on Political and Economic Liberalization," *ASPECT Working Paper Series*, Cranwell International Center, Virginia Tech, February 12, 2007.
- "Democratization through Economic Liberalization? A Medieval Muslim-Christian Lesson on a Contemporary Concern," *International Congress on Medieval Studies*, Kalamazoo, May 10-13, 2007.

- “Resistance in Christian and Muslim Political Thought,” *MPSA Annual Meeting*, Chicago, April 12-15, 2007.
- “Religion as Foundation of the Commonwealth? Medieval Christian and Muslim Concepts Compared,” *NPSA Annual Meeting*, November 9-11, 2006, Boston, Massachusetts.
- “Property Rights without Political Liberalization? Middle Eastern and Western Concepts Compared,” *SWPSA Annual Meeting*, San Antonio, April 11-15, 2006.
- Invited participant (expert of the text), “The Federal Liberty of Johannes Althusius,” conference sponsored by the Liberty Fund, Leipzig, July 2006.
- “Sharī’a and Decalogue: Johannes Althusius and Ibn Khaldūn on Religious Norms and the Conception of an Ideal State,” *2005 APT Conference*, Washington University, St. Louis, Missouri, October 21-23, 2005.
- “Economic Freedom without Democracy? On Ibn Khaldūn’s Theory of Decline,” *John L. Stanley Memorial Conference ‘Reason and Democracy in European, Middle Eastern, and Asian Political Thought in Comparative Historical Perspective’*, California State University, San Marcos, March 18-20, 2005.
- “On Ibn Khaldūn’s Theory of Political Decline and Its Implications for Western Concepts of Democracy,” *APSA Annual Meeting*, Washington, DC, September 1-4, 2005.
- “Religious Orthodoxy versus Political Diversity in Johannes Althusius’s *Politica Methodice Digesta*,” *Frühe Neuzeit Interdisziplinär Conference 2005, Orthodoxies and Diversities in Early Modern German-speaking Europe*, Duke University, Durham, April 7-10, 2005.
- “The Corruption of the *World’s Greatest Market Place*: On Ibn Khaldūn’s Theory of Decline,” *2004 APT Conference*, The Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colorado, October 29-31, 2004.
- “On (Cardinal) Virtues in Ptolemy of Lucca and Ibn Ẓafar al-Şiqillī: A Trans-Cultural Comparison,” *Princely Virtues in the Middle Ages, 1200-1500*, Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen, October 8-9, 2004.
- “Preachers of Subversion? Meister Eckhart and Savonarola on the Empowerment of the (Powerless) Individual,” *2004 Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association (SPSA)*, New Orleans, January 8-10, 2004.
- “Whose Heirs Are We? Marsilius of Padua and Johannes Althusius on Trust and the Idea of *Officium*,” *Inaugural Association for Political Theory Conference*, Calvin College’s Prince Conference Center, Grand Rapids, October 17-19, 2003.
- “Marsilius & Hobbes on the Division of Church and State: Some Aspects of Continuity,” *2003 APSA Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia, August 28-31, 2003.
- “Religion as a Principle of Political Order? Comparing Marsilius of Padua and Johannes Althusius,” *International and Interdisciplinary Symposium on the Occasion of the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the *Politica* of Johannes Althusius, Law, Politics, and Religion*, Herborn, June 11-14, 2003.
- “Marsilius & Hobbes on Religion & Papal Power: Some Observations on Similarities,” *Marsilius-Conference at the International Medieval Congress*, University of Leeds, July 14-17, 2003.

- “On Althusius’s Federalist Knowledge: Historical Experience and Classic Texts,” *2002 APSA Annual Meeting*, Boston, August 29-September 1, 2002.
- “Priestly Despotism: Unruly Clerics and Their Influence on the Civic Body in Marsilius of Padua’s *Defensor Pacis*,” *2002 International Medieval Congress (IMC)*, University of Leeds, July 8-11, 2002.
- “How to Control the Exercise of Political Power? The Constitutional Instruments of Marsilius of Padua and Johannes Althusius,” *2001 APSA Annual Meeting*, San Francisco, August 30 - September 2, 2001.
- “Ein Dadaist auf der Suche nach dem *neuen* Menschen: Hugo Ball zwischen Wissenschafts- & Gesellschaftskritik und christlicher Mystik,” Conference sponsored by the Eranos Gesellschaft, Monte Verità, Ascona, September/October, 2000.
- “The Everlasting Community? Marsilius and the Mortality of the Civic Body,” *2000 APSA Annual Meeting*, Washington, DC, August 31 - September 3, 2000.
- “*Universitas non moritur?* Zur (Un-)Sterblichkeit politischer Gemeinwesen in den politischen Entwürfen Marsilius’ von Padua und Johannes Althusius’,” *Interdisciplinary Research Students’ Colloquium*, Bildungszentrum Schloß Wendgräben, December 3-5, 1999.
- “Das Konzept des Kommunalismus: Auf der Suche nach spätmittelalterlichen Wurzeln der Stadt bei Althusius,” *Freitags-Kolloquium, Institut für Vergleichende Städtegeschichte*, Münster, November, 1998.

### *Professional Activities and Services:*

---

- Panelist: “First Year Students’ Experience, Faculty Panel on Teaching and Research,” Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, December 8, 2017.
- Discussant: “The Quest for Legitimacy in the Middle Ages,” *2017 APSA Annual Meeting*, San Francisco, August 31-September 3, 2017.
- Participant: Öffentliche Podiumsdiskussion zu den Konzepten Freiheit und Gerechtigkeit im Judentum, Christentum und Islam, Friedrich Alexander Universität Erlangen, May 11, 2017.
- Moderator: “The Concepts of Freedom and Justice in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam,” Friedrich Alexander Universität Erlangen, May 10-12, 2017.
- Co-organizer, CHHC Workshop | Violence + Art: Reflections on the Premodern, California Institute of Technology, April 28, 2017.
- Co-organizer, CHHC Workshop | Violence and Order, Past and Present, California Institute of Technology, January 20, 2017.
- Panel co-organizer: “Machiavelli in Context(s),” *2016 APSA Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia, September 1-4, 2016.
- Discussant: “Whither Aristotle? Medieval Aristotelianisms,” *2016 APSA Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia, September 1-4, 2016.

- Head: Athens Institute for Education and Research (ATINER), *14th Annual International Conference on Politics*, 13-16 June 2016, Athens, Greece.
- Chair: "Democracy, Legitimacy, and 'the Market'," *Crisis and Transformations: Rethinking Knowledges, Histories, Identities, Technologies*, 2016 ASPECT Graduate Conference April 1-2, 2016, Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, Blacksburg, VA.
- Co-organizer: Brock Cutler, Radford University, "Cross-dressing, Murder, and a Loaf of Bread: Environment and the Boundaries of Modern Algeria," public lecture, Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, March 2, 2016.
- Co-organizer and moderator: Iran Nuclear Deal: Physics, Politics & Diplomacy—A Conversation with Faculty, Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, September 15, 2015.
- Co-organizer: Payam Mohsein, Harvard, Kennedy School, "Detente or Brinkmanship: The US and Iran beyond Nuclear Negotiations," public lecture, Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, March 27, 2015.
- Chair: "The Just and Unjust in the Democratic Polity," *Representations of Resistance: 2015 ASPECT Graduate Conference*, Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, March 20-21, 2015.
- Moderator and co-organizer: "The U.S. and the Middle East: A Conversation with Faculty," November 11, 2014, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.
- Chair: "Identity and Belonging in Strange Places," *Strangers, Aliens, and Foreigner*, Nov. 1-3, 2014, Prague, Czech Republic.
- External Reviewer for Promotion to Associate Professor, July 2013.
- Commentator: "Cosmopolitan Political Thought: Method, Practice, Discipline," by Farah Godrej, Author Meets Critics, *2013 WPSA Annual Meeting*, Hollywood, CA, March 27-29, 2013.
- Chair: "Transgressive Spaces," *2nd Annual ASPECT Graduate Conference*, "Border Crossings: Transnationality, Citizenship, and Identity in Theory and Practice," Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, March 22-3, 2013.
- Discussant: "Aristotle on Civil Society and Polity," *2011 NPSA Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 17-19, 2011.
- Panel co-organizer and moderator: "Uprising in the Middle East: Making Sense of History in the Making (A panel discussion with Virginia Tech Faculty)," Virginia Tech, February 23, 2011.
- Discussant and Chair: "Comparative Political Theory," *2010 NPSA Annual Meeting*, Boston, November 11-13, 2010.
- Panel Organizer: "Republicanism, History, and Method: New Approaches to Niccolò Machiavelli," *2010 NPSA Annual Meeting*, Boston, November 11-13, 2010.
- Program Section Chair, Section 33: Foundations of Political Theory: Pre- and Early Modern, *MPSA Annual Meeting*, March 31-April 3, 2011, Chicago.
- Discussant: R. Scott, "History and Tradition in the Thought of Muhammad Salim al-Awwa," *ASPECT Working Paper Series*, Cranwell International Center, Virginia Tech, October 7, 2010.

- Panel Organizer: "The (Super-)Natural and the Political in Medieval Thought," *36th Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Medieval Association*, November 18-20, 2010, Roanoke, VA.
- Chair and Comment: "Medieval Political Thought I: New Perspectives on Marsilius and His Opponents," *Pacific Coast Branch American Historical Association Meeting*, "Moving Beyond National, Cultural, & Disciplinary Boundaries," 12-14 August 2010, Santa Clara, California.
- Chair: "John of Paris: Beyond Royal and Papal Powers, II – Ideas, Problems, and Approaches," *2010 International Medieval Congress (IMC)*, Leeds, July 12-15, 2010.
- Organizer and Chair: Plenary Session "Collaborative Research" *2008 APT Conference*, Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, October 9-12, 2008.
- Chair: "Conflict and Strategy in Machiavelli's Thought" *2008 APT Conference*, Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, October 9-12, 2008.
- Member of Program Committee: *2008 APT Conference*, Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, October 9-12, 2008.
- Panel Organizer: "Resistance in Transition," *2008 APSA Annual Meeting*, Boston, August 28-31, 2008.
- Discussant and Chair: G. Kao, "Mission Impossible: 'Nonsectarian' Prayer in the Military Chaplaincy," *ASPECT Working Paper Series*, Cranwell International Center, Virginia Tech, January 23, 2008.
- Discussant: R. Scott, "'Islamic Order': The Early Thought of Muhammad al-Ghazali (1906-1996)," *ASPECT Working Paper Series*, Cranwell International Center, Virginia Tech, March 13, 2007.
- Discussant: "Sovereign States and Dutiful Citizens," *2007 Association for Political Theory Conference (APT)*, University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, October 11-14, 2007.
- Discussant: "Political Science as the Art of the State and the Art of the Prince," *APSA Annual Meeting*, Chicago, August 30 - September 2, 2007.
- Chair: "The Medieval-Modern Divide in Medieval Political Thought," *2006 APSA Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia, August 31 – September 3, 2006.
- Discussant: "New Themes in Medieval Political Thought," *2005 APSA Annual Meeting*, Washington, DC, September 1-4, 2005.
- Panel organizer: "Theories of Decline and Mobilizing Democracy in Non-Western Political Thought," *APSA Annual Meeting*, Washington, DC, September 1-4, 2005. • Chair: "Virtues on the Chessboard" and "Medieval Spain," *Princely Virtues in the Middle Ages, 1200-1500*, Radboud Universiteit Nijmegen, October 8-9, 2004.
- Discussant: "Medieval Latin Political Ideas in Global Context," *2004 APSA Annual Meeting*, Chicago, September 2-5, 2004.
- Discussant: "Medieval Political Thought and Political Theology," *2003 APSA Annual Meeting*, Philadelphia, August 28-31, 2003.

- Chair: “The Word and the World: Political Applications of Theology,” *International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds*, July 14-17, 2003.
- Invited participant of podium-discussion: “Althusius in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” *International and Interdisciplinary Symposium on the Occasion of the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Politica of Johannes Althusius, Law, Politics, and Religion*, Herborn, June 11-14, 2003.
- Conference co-organization: *Editoren-Treffen. Hannah Arendt – Sämtliche Werke*, Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Berlin, January 21, 2003.
- Panel organizer: “The Public Life of Federalism in Althusius’s Theory and Its Practices,” *2002 Annual Meeting American Political Science Association*, Boston, MA, August 29-September 1, 2002.
- Conference co-organization: *Totalitäre Herrschaft und republikanische Demokratie. 50 Jahre ‘The Origins of Totalitarianism’*, Carl von Ossietzky University Oldenburg, December 12-14, 2001.
- Conference co-organization: *Totalitäre Herrschaft und republikanische Demokratie. 50 Jahre ‘The Origins of Totalitarianism’*, Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften, Berlin, December 7-8, 2001.

### **Manuscript Reviewer:**

---

- *American Political Science Review* (APSR)
- *Athens Journal of Mediterranean Studies*
- *Athens Journal of Social Sciences*
- Athens Institute for Education & Research (ATINER)
- *British Journal for the History of Philosophy*
- *Encyclopedia of Political Thought*
- *Global Policy*
- *History of European Ideas*
- *Intellectual History Review*
- *Journal of Political Philosophy* (JPP)
- Lexington
- *LSE Kuwait Programme research papers*
- Oxford University Press
- Palgrave Macmillan
- *Political Research Quarterly* (PRQ)
- *Polity*
- Polity Press
- *The American Journal of Political Science* (AJPS)
- *The Review of Politics*

## Department Service:

---

### Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University:

#### *Department of Political Science*

- Ad Hoc Bylaw Committee (2017/18)
- Awards and Honors Committee, Department of Political Science (2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13, Spring 2014; 2014/15, 2015/16).
- ASPECT Publications and Events Committee (2011/12, 2012/13).
- ASPECT Curriculum Advisory Committee (2011/12, 2012/13, Spring 2014, 2014/15, 2015/16).
- Bentham Fund Manager (2015/16).
- Executive Committee Member, Department of Political Science (2007/8, 2010/11).
- Graduate Committee member, Department of Political Science (2007/8, 2008/9, 2009/10, 2010/11, 2011/12, 2012/13).
- Member of Search Committee, Political Theory (Spring 2008).
- Middle East Working Group (member since Fall 2006; chair: Spring 2011/Fall 2011; co-chair: 2014/15, 2015/16).
- Secretary to Faculty, Department of Political Science (2006/7).

#### *College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences*

- Awards and Honors Committee, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences (2011/12; 2012/13, Spring 2014).
- College Promotion & Tenure Committee (2015/16).
- College Instructor Promotion P&T Subcommittee (2015/16)
- Dean's Advisory Committee on International Initiatives (DACII) (2014/15, 2015/16).
- External Member of Search Committee, Open Rank Arabic, Foreign Languages and Literature Department (Fall 2012).
- Faculty Council, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences (Fall 2014, department's deputy representative; Spring 2015, department's representative).
- International Initiatives Committee (2017-2018)

#### *University*

- University Faculty Senate (2017/18)

### Carl von Ossietzky Universität, Oldenburg:

- Deputy Representative on the faculty council for social science and the humanities, University of Oldenburg.
- Member of the committee on the reorganization of the course program in political science at the University of Oldenburg.
- Departmental equal opportunity compliance monitor, Department of Political Science, University of Oldenburg.

---

### *Academic Awards and Honors:*

---

- Caltech-Huntington Humanities Collaborations Fellowship, The Huntington, San Marino, CA and California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA, 2016/17
- Visiting Associate in the Humanities, California Institute of Technology, 2016/17.
- Dean's Faculty Fellowship, College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, 2015/16.
- International Initiative Grant: Dean's Advisory Board on International Initiatives, Spring 2016.
- GEO Curriculum Globalization Grant, 2015.
- International Initiative Grant: Dean's Advisory Board on International Initiatives, 2015.
- Virginia Tech Foundation: International Travel Grant, 2014.
- Global Issues Initiative (GII) Grant, Spring 2013.
- Virginia Tech Foundation: International Travel Grant, 2009.
- Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft: International Travel Grant, 2005.
- Alternate, Postdoctoral Fellowship, Erasmus Institute, University of Notre Dame, 2004.
- Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg, Department of Political Science/Research Pool Fellowship February – May 2004.
- International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds: Bursary 2002.
- American Political Science Association: International Travel Grant, 2000.
- Herzog August Bibliothek Wolfenbüttel: 23rd International Summer Course *Projects in the Seventeenth Century*, July 27 - August 21, 1998. Supervision: Professor Mordechai Feingold.