

Brian Jason Mello

Associate Dean for Diversity Initiatives
Associate Professor
Department of Political Science
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Education:

- Ph.D. Political Science, June 2006, University of Washington, Seattle
Areas of Expertise: Comparative Politics, Political Theory, & Social Movements
- M.A. Political Science, June, 2001, University of Washington, Seattle
Thesis Title: "Identity, Collective Political Action, & an Agonistic Concept of the Political"
Areas of Expertise: Political Theory, Comparative Politics
- B.A. Politics/Women's Studies, May 1999, Fairfield University
Summa Cum Laude
Phi Beta Kappa

Dissertation:

"Evaluating Social Movement Impacts: Labor and the Politics of State-Society Relations"
Committee: Stephen Hanson (Chair), Nancy Hartsock, Reşat Kasaba, & Michael McCann

Research:

Under Review:

"The Islamic State: Violence and Ideology in a Post-Colonial Revolutionary Regime" – under review at
International Political Sociology

Publications Muhlenberg (Book):

Evaluating Social Movement Impacts: Comparative Lessons from the Labor Movement in Turkey.
Bloomsbury Press, 2013.

Publications Muhlenberg (Journals, Chapters, and Reviews):

Review of *Working Class Formation in Turkey, 1946-1962* by Baris Alp Ozden, *Dissertation Reviews* <http://dissertationreviews.org/archives/10385>

"Preaching to the Apathetic and Uninterested." (co-authored with Angelique Davis). *Journal for Civic Commitment* (March 2012).

"Islamic Political Mobilization in Turkey." In *History, Politics, and Foreign Policy in Turkey*. Kiliç Buğra Kanat, Kadir Üstün, and Nuh Yilmaz (eds.) Ankara: SETA Foundation, 2011.

“Social Movements, Norm Cascades, and Women’s Rights Outside of the West.” (co-authored with Michael Strausz). *Journal of Women, Politics, and Policy* (November 2011).

Guest Editor European Journal of Turkish Studies – Special issue on the labor movement in Turkey published (October 2010).

“Communists and Compromisers: Explaining Divergences within Turkish Labor Activism, 1960-1980.” *European Journal of Turkish Studies* (October 2010).

Review of Graham E. Fuller, *The New Turkish Republic: Turkey as a Pivotal State in the Muslim World*. in *The International Journal of Middle East Studies*. (January 2010).

“Political Process and the Development of Labor Insurgency in Turkey, 1945-1980.” *Social Movement Studies*. (November 2007).

Publications Pre-Muhlenberg:

Recasting the Right to Self-Determination: Group Rights and Political Participation.” *Social Theory and Practice*. (April 2004).

Review of Cihat Goktepe, *British Foreign Policy Towards Turkey: 1959-1965*. in *Journal of Turkish Studies*. (Spring 2004).

Conference Presentations Muhlenberg:

“Contingency and Emotion: Simulating Protest and Revolution in the Middle East” at the 2016 Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association

“Religion, Secularism, and the Stability of Semi-Democratic Regimes in Bangladesh and Turkey” (co-authored with Mohsin Hashim) at the 2016 Congress of the International Political Science Association

“Analyzing and Interpreting the Islamic State” at the 2015 Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association. This paper was also the basis of a department colloquium presentation in November 2015.

“Military Interventions and the Shaping of Islamic Political Mobilization in Bangladesh and Turkey” (co-authored with Mohsin Hashim) at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association

“Radicalization and/or Reformism in Working Class Politics” at Turkey in the 1960s: Social Change and Political Radicalization, Hamburg Germany, June 2014

“Political Opportunity Structures and Labor Movement Politicization: A Critique” (co-authored with Michael Schramm) at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association

“Ball In: Anarchism, Society and Pickup Basketball” at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association

“This is What Action Looks Like: Arendt and the Overthrow of Mubarak” (co-authored with Glenn Mackin) at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association

“The End of the Liberalized Autocracy in the Middle East and North Africa?” at the 2012 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association

“The Grammar of Action: An Arendtian Analysis of the Egyptian Revolution” (co-authored with Glenn Mackin) at the 2012 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association

“Reclaiming Politics in the Middle East: Reflections on the Overthrow of Mubarak” (co-authored with Glenn Mackin) at the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association

“Identity, Meaning, and Contested Space: Istanbul as a European Capital of Culture” at the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association

“Political Opportunity Structures and the Dynamics of Islamic Political Mobilization in Bangladesh and Turkey” (co-authored with S. Mohsin Hashim) at the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association

“Liminal Istanbul: Considerations on a European Capital of Culture” at the 2010 Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association

“How Bayonets Shape Minarets: Military Interventions and the Shaping of Islamic Political Mobilization in Bangladesh and Turkey.” (co-authored with S. Mohsin Hashim) at the 2010 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association

“Secularist Impediments to Democracy?” at the 2009 Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association

“State Building, Military Interventions and Political Development in Islamic Societies” (co-authored with S. Mohsin Hashim) at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Northeast Political Science Association

“Norm Cascades and Domestic Politics: The Turkish Ratification of the UN Convention on the Eradication of All Forms of Discrimination against Women” at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association

“Alternative Collective Subjectivities and the Political Impact of Radical Labor Activism in Japan and Turkey” at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association

“Western Norms in Eastern Contexts: Japan, Turkey, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women” (co-authored with Michael Strausz) at the 2007 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association

Select Conference Presentations Pre-Muhlenberg:

“Is This What Democracy Looks Like? Collective Subjectivity and Democratic Outcomes,” at the 2007 Annual Meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology

“Conflicting Rationalities and the Return of Kurdish Violence in Turkey,” at the 2007 Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association

“The Importance of Divergent Strategies in Turkish Labor History, 1960-1980,” at the 2006 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association

“Political Process and the Development of Labor Insurgency in Turkey, 1945-1980,” at the 2005 Annual Meeting of the Pacific Northwest Political Science Association

“Democracy and Economic Justice: Labor Activism and Contemporary Turkish Politics,” at the 2005 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association

“State-Labor Relations and the Shaping of Modern Turkish Politics,” at the 2004 University of Utah Conference on the Middle East and Central Asia

“Evaluating Social Movement Impacts: Labor and the Politics of State-Society Relations,” at the 2004 Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association

“The Road(map) to Hell is Paved With Bad Assumptions: A Theoretical Critique of Theories of Self-Determination in Practice,” at the 2003 University of Utah Conference on the Middle East and Central Asia

Other Conference Leadership/Participation:

Section Co-Chair, Comparative Politics 2014 - present - Northeastern Political Science Association

Member and Secretary of the General Council 2015 – 2015 – Northeastern Political Science Association

Panel Discussant on Three Panels – 2015 Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association

Coordinator, Roundtable – “Turkey in Transition: Reflections on Electoral and Protest Politics” – 2014 Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association

Panel Chair and Discussant – 2014 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association

Panel Chair and Discussant - 2014 Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association

Panel Chair and Discussant – 2013 Northeastern Political Science Association

Section Chair, Contemporary Political Theory – 2013 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association

Panel Chair and Discussant – 2011 Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association

Panel Chair and Discussant – 2011 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association

Panel Chair and Discussant – 2010 Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association

Panel Chair and Discussant – 2010 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association

Discussant – 2009 Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association

Panel Chair and Discussant – 2009 Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association

Panel Chair and Discussant – 2008 Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association

Panel Chair and Discussant – 2008 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association

Panel Chair and Discussant – 2007 Annual Meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology

Panel Chair – 2007 Annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association

Teaching Experience:

2013 – present Associate Professor, Muhlenberg College
Department of Political Science

2007-2013 Assistant Professor, Muhlenberg College
Department of Political Science
PSC 130: Intro. to Comparative Politics & International Relations
PSC 201: Political Ideologies
PSC 230: European Government and Politics
PSC 242: Intro to Peace & Conflict Studies
PSC 248: Government and Politics of the Middle East
PSC 283: Revolutionary Regimes
PSC 280: The Making of Modern Turkey (includes short-term study abroad)
PSC 380: Causes and Consequences of the Arab Spring
PSC 381: Comparative Social Movement Studies
PSC 384: Islamist Radicalism as Ideology and Political Praxis
PSC 490: CUE Senior Capstone Seminar
FYS: The Wire: Representations of Urban Life
FYS: Exploring Anarchy

2005-2007 Core Lecturer, Seattle University
Department of Political Science
PLSC 120: Citizenship
PLSC 361: American Foreign Policy
PLSC 230: Comparing Nations (Intro to Comparative)
PLSC 250: Introduction to Political Theory
PLSC 355: Contemporary Political Thought
PLSC 493: Middle East Politics

Scholarships/Grants/Awards:

LVAIC Conference Grant--\$4000 grant from the Lehigh Valley Association of Independent Colleges to fund a conference on the theme of war and peacebuilding. (2014-2015; and 2016-2017).

Muhlenberg College Summer Pedagogical Grant—Four week summer grant to revise Intro to Conflict and Peace Studies with the inclusion of a video game lab and section on video games and warfare. (May – June 2016).

Muhlenberg College Summer Research Grant—Eight week summer research grant for an invited conference presentation on radicalization in the Turkish labor movement during the 1960s (June-August 2014).

Muhlenberg College Summer Research Grant—Eight week summer research grant for two on-going research projects related to the Arab Spring (June-August 2013).

Muhlenberg College Summer Research Grant – Eight week summer research grant for research and revision of book manuscript (June-August 2011).

Comparative Studies Grant, Institute of Turkish Studies - \$2750 grant from the Institute of Turkish Studies for research analyzing the impact of military interventions on Islamic political parties in Turkey and Bangladesh (2009-2010).

Muhlenberg College Summer Research Grant – Four week summer research grant for travel to Turkey (July 2008)

Dissertation Writing Grant, Institute of Turkish Studies - \$10,000 grant from the Institute of Turkish Studies (2005-2006).

Fellow, Connecting with the Community Institute – Simpson Center for the Humanities at the University of Washington (2003-2004).

Chester Fritz Fellowship - Fellowship from the University of Washington Graduate School for field research in Turkey (Spring 2004).

Harry S. Bridges Center for Labor Studies Research Grant – \$2500 grant from the Center for Labor Studies for field research in Turkey (2004).

Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship (FLAS) – For the study of Turkish during the Summer 2000 and during the 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 academic years.

J. Allen Smith Fellowship – Fellowship from the Department of Political Science at the University of Washington (Spring 2000).

John J. Sullivan Award – Award for my work in political science, both academically and in the community (April 1998).

Passarelli-Guinta Award for Excellence in the Study of Politics – Award for academic achievement at Fairfield University.

Fairfield University Student Achievement Award – Award from the Fairfield University Alumni Association recognizing my efforts in putting together the 1999 Student Summit on Diversity.

Select Campus and Community Presentations:

What does it mean to speak of Saudi Arabia in transition? – Great Decisions in Foreign Affairs Lecture Series, Bethlehem, PA, March 2017 & Macungie, PA, July 2017

Foucault, Fanon, and the Islamic State October 28, 2016 – SUNY Oswego

The Middle East: All that is Solid Melts into Air – Great Decisions in Foreign Affairs Lecture Series, Bethlehem, PA, March 2016

The Islamic State: Violence and Ideology in a Post-Colonial Revolutionary Regime – Columbia University Faculty Seminar (Law and Politics), March 2016

The End of Liberalized Autocracy in the Middle East and North Africa – March 2015 – Bowdoin College

Lessons of Arendtian Action in the Egyptian Streets, April 13, 2011. Alan Katz Lecture – Fairfield University.

Militarism and Masculinity: Some Reflections on Manliness and Sexualized Torture, March 29, 2011. Presentation as part of Muhlenberg College forum on Militaries and Masculinities.

Can American Foreign Policy Respond to the Root Causes of Terrorism and Piracy in the Horn of Africa? February 16, 2011. Great Decisions in Foreign Affairs Lecture Series, Bethlehem, PA.

Revolutionary Egypt: The End of Liberalized Autocracies? February 7, 2011. Campus Conversation on Egypt.

Islamic Political Mobilization in Turkey, February, 2011. SETA Foundation Young Scholars on Turkey Lecture Series, Georgetown University.

Israel and Palestine: Six Impediments to Peace, March 9, 2009. Presentation to Hope UCC Peace and Conflict Group, Allentown, PA.

An Exit Strategy and the 2008 Election Cycle, April, 2008. Presentation to Kiwanis Club of Palmer Township.

Reflections on Exiting a War that Seems to Just be Part of the Routine, March 2008. Presentation as part of Muhlenberg College Democrats forum on exit strategies and the Iraq War.

The EU & Turkey: How Racism and Xenophobia Threaten to Tarnish the Legacy of European Integration, February, 2008. Presentation as part of YWCA of Bethlehem's Great Decisions Foreign Affairs Lecture Series.

The Iraqi Divide, November, 2007. Presentation as part of Muhlenberg International Relations Club panel discussion.

Turkish Political History & (Un)Democratic Tendencies, October, 2006. Presentation at Seattle Center as part of Turkfest, Seattle's Annual Turkish Cultural Festival.

Foreign Policy Formation & State-Society Relations, April, 2006. Presentation for the English for Heritage Language Speakers Program held at the University of Washington.

The Political Impact of Labor Militancy in Turkey, January, 2006. Presentation for the Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies Colloquia Series.

Political Earthquakes & the Winds of Change, October, 2005. Presentation on the lessons from the 1999 earthquake in Turkey regarding the potential political impact of Hurricane Katrina, prepared for Seattle University teach-in.

College Committee Service:

Member, Muhlenberg College Academic Policy Committee 2016 -2019

Pi Sigma Alpha Chapter Advisor 2015 - present

Member and co-chair, Muhlenberg College Multicultural Advisory Board 2014 -2017

Member, Muhlenberg College Campus Safety Advisory Board 2014-2016

Muhlenberg College Secretary of the Faculty – 2011-2012; 2015-2016

Member, Muhlenberg College Writing Program Committee – 2011 – 2014

Chair, Muhlenberg College Writing Program Committee – 2012 - 2014

Member, Muhlenberg College Committee on Fitness & Athletics, 2008 - 2012

Chair, Muhlenberg College Committee on Fitness & Athletics – 2010 - 2012

Member, Muhlenberg College Social Judicial Board – 2009 - 2012

Recent Activities:

National Fulbright Selection Committee (Turkey, Greece, and Cyprus) 2015 – 2017

Advisory Committee Member for the Great Decisions in Foreign Policy Lecture Series hosted by YWCA of Bethlehem 2015 - present

Co-Director, Center for Ethics Program War and Peacebuilding – 2016-2017

Co-Director, Center for Ethics Program Civility and Disobedience – 2014-2015

Co-Director, Meeting Points Lecture Series – Spring 2014

Scholar in Residence – Center for Ethics – Fall 2011

Coordinator – 2009-2010 Muhlenberg College Academic Forum – The Legacy of 1989: Twenty Years in the Post-Communist World

Chair, Turkish Studies Association - Sydney N. Fisher Graduate Student Paper Prize Committee – 2009

Member, Muhlenberg College Student Government Assessment & Review Committee – 2008-2009

Phi Beta Kappa – Muhlenberg College Chapter Co-President – 2008-2010

Advisor to Muhlenberg College International Relations Council (MIRC) – Fall 2008 to present

Academic Advisor to ATO Fraternity (2012 – present)

Journal External Reviewer Service:

Article Reviewer for the *European Journal of Turkish Studies* – 2013

Article Reviewer for the *American Political Science Review* – 2011 & 2012

Article Reviewer for *Mobilization* – Spring 2011

Article Reviewer for *Journal of Moral Philosophy* – Spring 2009

Article Reviewer for *International Sociology* – Spring 2005

Professional Affiliations:

Member, Midwest Political Science Association

Member, Turkish Studies Association

Member, American Political Science Association

Member, Northeastern Political Science Association

References: