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Authors' Biographies

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Authors' Biographies

AUTHORS' BIOGRAPHIES

Ryan Winter is a junior at Illinois Wesleyan University with majors in Political Science and History. In his time at IWU, Ryan has been a mentor for the Engaging Diversity program, a political science research assistant, and has spent two years as a long and triple jumper on the track and field team. Ryan spent the spring semester of 2013 volunteering as an intern for Tari Renner's mayoral campaign in Bloomington. As a recipient of Illinois Wesleyan University's Eckley Summer Fellowship, Ryan looks forward to spending the summer conducting research on the role of religion in European radical right populist parties, under the guidance of Professor Kathleen Montgomery.

Yelei Kong is a senior Political Science major with a minor in International Studies, Western European Studies. He is the 2012-13 John and Erma Stutzman Peace Fellow, a member of Pi Sigma Alpha, the political science honor society, and has been involved with the student organization Scholars at Risk. He spent his sophomore year in Milan, Italy. After returning to IWU, he has interned with the Bloomington City Government and Ronda Glenn law offices. He also spent his summers working with NGOs and consulting firms. He will be attending law school at Columbia University in the fall.

Zoe Gross is a senior Political Science major. She is a research assistant for the Political Science department and the president of Mortar Board and Pi Sigma Alpha honor societies. Throughout her four years at Illinois Wesleyan University, she served as president of her sorority, Sigma Kappa, and has also been a member of College Democrats, Phi Beta Kappa, and served on the steering committee of the Central Illinois ACLU. Zoe's most influential experience at IWU was serving as the assistant coordinator for the Action Research Center during the summer of 2012, where she studied Bloomington's food deserts and became more entrenched in the community. After graduation, she will be attending Washington University School of Law.

Nick Desideri is a junior Political Science and International Studies double major. He spent spring semester 2012 at Georgetown University interning for the Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies and is currently spending his spring semester 2013 abroad at the Tecnológico de Monterrey in Mexico City. An avid pop culture and pop music nerd, he enjoys researching how culture impacts international relations. He hopes to parlay his experience as an editor of *The Argus* and his love of writing into a career in government or media. Though he would eventually like to attend graduate school in the States, he plans on spending time in China after graduation to continue working on his Chinese language skills.

Abigail Carter is a senior with majors in Political Science and History. She is co-president of Phi Alpha Theta, vice-president of Best Buddies, a research assistant for the Political Science department, and a member of Kappa Kappa Gamma Fraternity. Abby has interned at the McLean County State's Attorney's office and Bloomington Legal Services. She spent a semester abroad in Dublin, Ireland, where she interned at a political party's headquarters. After graduation, Abby hopes to work for the federal government and eventually attend graduate school.

Ted Delicath is a senior political science major. Throughout his four years at IWU, he has been involved in a wide variety of activities. Ted is a proud member of the Action Research Center (ARC), was the Vice-President for Student Senate, is the current President of the Class of 2013 and is Co-President of Pi Sigma Alpha. This semester, Ted helped manage Professor Tari Renner's campaign for Bloomington's mayor. After graduation, Ted will lobby in Springfield/Washington D.C. during the summer and in September take part in the CORO Fellowship in St. Louis. Most importantly, Ted loves his mother (Momma D); without her none of this would be possible.