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Authors' Biographies

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Authors' Biographies

AUTHOR BIOGRAPHIES

Benjamin Nielsen is a senior Political Science Major and Advocacy Minor. He played 4 years for the IWU Men's soccer team and has lettered every year. He also is an active member of Tau Kappa Epsilon, and served as the social chair for the fraternity. Benjamin's academic interests include information acquisition, heuristics, and political attitude formation. His passion for service and municipal government inspired him to intern for the Town of Normal's Economic Development Council and the City of Bloomington. Upon graduation, he will be attending Northern Illinois University to receive a Master's Degree in Public Administration. With this degree, he hopes to become a city manager in the midwest area.

Anna Eager is a sophomore Double Major in Political Science and Economics. During her time at IWU, she has been a member of IWU Women's Soccer team as a center midfielder. She is a 2 year varsity letter winner. She is also an active member of the Kappa Kappa Gamma Sorority here on campus and is the philanthropy director for the organization. She worked very hard most recently on the Golden Key Gala which is her sorority's biggest philanthropy event of the year and benefits Reading is Fundamental. This event raised over \$5000. Anna has loved the balance of athletics, academics, and other activities on campus. She feels as though she is truly getting the well-rounded liberal arts experience she always wanted. This summer she will be living in Washington D.C. and is hoping to do the Freeman Asia Internship program the following year. Eventually Anna hopes to go to law school.

Jonathan Panton is a sophomore Political Science and Business Administration Double Major. While at Illinois Wesleyan, he has been dedicated to philanthropy. For example, Jonathan has served as the philanthropy chair for Acacia fraternity, he is the president-elect of Circle K, and he is a member of Habitat for Humanity (which also includes the alternative spring break trip to Louisiana). These many service experiences have given Jonathan insight on the struggles of low-income people and have shown that no matter how much progress has been made to provide services to the poor, there is substantial work to be done. Jonathan hopes to attend law school after college in order to give a voice to the forgotten people in our society.

Hannah Lyons is a senior International Studies Major with a concentration in Diplomatic Studies. Before transferring to Illinois Wesleyan she studied at Heartland Community College and spent two years studying abroad, one in China learning Mandarin at the Beijing University of Language and Culture, and one in France studying the French language. Her interests lie in international politics and relations and the impact of culture on these arenas. On campus she

works at the writing center, is a member of the National Society of Leadership and Success, and Phi Kappa Phi. Following graduation she plans to pursue her Master's Degree.

Emily Chamernik is a first-year Environmental and International Sustainability major. She is an active member of Black Student Union (BSU) and works as a desk aide for Munsell Hall. She participated in the pre-orientation, Engaging Diversity, and will be a mentor next year. Emily hopes to do one of the many internships for environmental majors in the Bloomington-Normal area. She is planning to study abroad in Nice, France, and is eager to learn how other countries try to be sustainable. She is particularly interested in environmental justice, and wants to be able to work to change the systemic injustices that occur due to environmental crises in disadvantaged populations.

Geoffroi Castro is a senior Double Major in Political Science and Philosophy. During his time at IWU, he has been in (SALSA) Spanish and Latino Student Association and Student Senate. In the past, Geoffroi was part of the IWU Track n Field team. He was also elected as Student Senate where he worked in representing the student best interest. As a philosophy major, he has started work on an Honors Research Project that focuses on the ethics of whether the problem of fake news should be regulated by the government. Geoffroi hopes to practice law or go into government administration and public policy in order to help people and do the right thing.

Logan Servin is a freshman Finance major with a double minor in Financial Economics and Political Science. During his time at IWU, he has been an active member of Alpha Kappa Psi Business Fraternity and is a member of the Illinois Wesleyan Men's Soccer Team. Logan has a particular interest in federal fiscal policy especially relating to tax codes and has spent a week long field study in Washington D.C. researching President Trump's tax plan and its effect on the businesses and citizens alike. After graduation from Illinois Wesleyan University, Logan looks to work in the corporate sector before entering the field of politics in economic policy advising, specifically relating to changes that affect the business climate in the United States.

Veronica Torres Luna is a senior Political Science major with a Psychology minor. Throughout her time at IWU, she has participated in various organizations. Veronica has been the Student Senate Civic Engagement Commissioner, an active member of honor and leadership societies, a Campus Visit Assistant, writing and Spanish tutor, and has also interned in Chile and the Philippines. Veronica's research interests include Latinos' political attitudes and education policy. She will seek a Master's Degree in Public Administration after a few years of work. Veronica believes in the power of the people and hopes to make government resources more

accessible to those that are often overlooked to ensure that everyone has a fair shot at a dignified quality of life.

Laura Bullock is a senior double Political Science and English major with a minor in French & Francophone Studies. During her time at IWU, she has been active in the local political and political-adjacent spheres, both on-campus and off. She has served as president of IWU's Model United Nations, as a Student Senator, and as an intern for both Mayor Tari Renner's mayoral re-election campaign and for Senator Sherrod Brown's constituent service office in Cincinnati, Ohio. Her research interests include the role of women in the political sphere, voting issues and voting rights, and intersectional gender studies. In the future, she hopes to continue to grow her experience in politics by serving as a political aide or holding office herself.

Gaoming Zhu is a senior Political Science major. During her time at IWU, she has been an active member in Ethics Bowl and an editor of *Res Publica*, the political science journal at IWU. She spent a year at Columbia University in New York, gathering quantitative research experience. She also studied abroad at London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). Her interests are in Intellectual Property Law and quantitative research. After graduation, she will work as an LSAT tutor for a year and go to law school thereafter.