Contact: Rachel Boon

UNIVERSITY PRESENTATION: THE CENTER FOR CYCLONE CIVICS: FOSTERING CIVIC LITERACY, CIVIC SKILLS AND CIVIC DISPOSITION

Committee Action Requested: Receive the presentation.

Presenters:

Karen Kedrowski



Dr. Karen M. Kedrowski is Director of the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics, co-Director of the Center for Cyclone Civics and Professor of Political Science at Iowa State University.

Kedrowski earned her Bachelor of Arts degree, *Magna cum Laude,* from the University of Minnesota, where she majored in political science, French and history. She then earned her MA and PhD in political science from the University of Oklahoma.

Kedrowski's research agenda focuses primarily on women and politics and civic engagement. She is the author, coauthor or co-editor of five books and more than 60 book chapters, book reviews, journal articles, encyclopedia entries and blog posts. She also leads Iowa State's voter engagement efforts, which have earned several national recognitions. In addition, Dr. Kedrowski is frequently interviewed by local, regional, national and international news organizations.

Kedrowski's most recent books are *Walking a Gendered Tightrope: Theresa May and Nancy Pelosi as Legislative Leaders* (2023, Michigan) and *The Palgrave Handbook of Fashion and Politics* (2024), co-edited with Lori Poloni-Staudinger, Candice Ortbals, and J. Cherie Strachan. Her current projects focus on intersectionality and public policy and rural politics.

Prior to coming to Iowa State, Kedrowski spent 24 years at Winthrop University, in Rock Hill, S.C. Kedrowski held many leadership positions during her career there, including as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. She received Winthrop's highest honor, Distinguished Professor, in 2011.

Kelly Shaw



Kelly B. Shaw is a Teaching Professor in the Department of Political Science at Iowa State University, where he has taught since 2011, and co-Director of the Center for Cyclone Civics. He was named Associate Director for Cyclone Civics in 2024 and co-Director of the Center in 2025. His teaching spans public policy and administration, comparative politics, and American and state politics. He also serves as faculty advisor to the Midwest Model European Union Simulation and frequently contributes to state, national and international media outlets.

While serving at Iowa State, Shaw also held an appointment as a lecturer and Director of the Des Moines Internship Program in the University of Iowa's Department of Political Science from 2012 to 2020. His academic experience also includes an appointment as Visiting Assistant Professor of Politics and International Relations at Drake University. Earlier in his career, he served as Associate Director of the European Union Center at the University of Missouri, coordinating policy outreach for the European Commission across the Midwestern United States. His public service includes two terms as mayor of Indianola, Iowa, and work in Washington, D.C., for Iowa Congressman Jim Lightfoot.

Shaw earned his Ph.D. in political science from the University of Missouri in 2002. He also holds an M.A. in political science from Iowa State University and a bachelor's degree from Central College.