



**2019 NSEE Awards of Excellence
Outstanding Experiential Education Research**



Dr. Jeffrey Sosland & Dr. Diane Lowenthal

American University

“The Forgotten Educator: Experiential Learning’s Internship Supervisor”

The focus of **Dr. Jeffrey Sosland**'s teaching is international business, global water scarcity and internship experiential learning. He has been a professor at American University for 17 years. His most recent book is on water politics and the Arab-Israeli conflict, *Cooperating Rivals: The Riparian Politics of the Jordan River Basin* (State University of New York Press). Dr. Sosland also coauthored with Dr. Diane Lowenthal journal articles on experiential education and internships, including “Making the Grade: How a Semester in Washington May Influence Future Academic Performance” and “The Forgotten Educator: Experiential Learning's Internship Supervisor” (both in *Journal of Political Science Education*). This research has received an award from the American Political Science Association (APSA). Dr. Sosland received his Ph.D. from Georgetown University, A.B. from Harvard University and a Post-Doctoral Fellowship from Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

In his non-professional life Dr. Sosland has served on the board of directors of the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Capitol Chapter (past president), McLean School of Maryland, Camp Ramah in New England and the Milton School in Washington D.C. (past vice president) as well as enjoying long distance running (completed 17 marathons and a 50-mile ultramarathon) and the company of his wife, three children and their dog.

Dr. Diane Lowenthal is the Senior Associate Dean in SPExS. She came to AU in 2000 to teach American Politics Seminars and supervise Research Projects for the Washington Semester Program. Prior to joining AU, Dr. Lowenthal taught American Politics courses (including Campaigns and Elections, Political Behavior, Political Psychology, and Women and Politics) at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, PA. Recent research (in collaboration with Dr. Jeffrey Sosland) has focused on experiential education and internships. Lowenthal and Sosland won an award for their APSA paper on Internship Supervisors as Forgotten Educators, a paper that was subsequently published in the *Journal of Political Science Education*.

Dr. Lowenthal earned a PhD in Social and Decision Sciences from Carnegie Mellon University. Her doctoral dissertation, “What Voters Care About: How Electoral Context Influences Issue Salience in Political Campaigns,” was funded by a National Science Foundation grant.

Dr. Lowenthal earned an A.B. from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor in Political Science. She graduated with distinction and high honors for her thesis on the Office of Economic Opportunity. She spent her junior year abroad at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

Between undergraduate and graduate degrees, Dr. Lowenthal worked as Director of the Independent Voters of Illinois-Independent Precinct Organization (IVI-IPO). She has also worked in the Cook County (Illinois) Clerk's office, on several campaigns, and for an independent public opinion pollster.