

Spring 2009

Political Science Spring 2009

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Department of Political Science

Spring 2009

POLI Newsletter

Volume 3, No. 2

Greetings from the Chair

In the middle of October 2008, when the *Newsletter* last appeared, neither the Department nor the University had yet been directly impacted by the economic downturn. That situation soon changed, however, and the Department has since made a number of adjustments to new budget realities. The most difficult of these was the postponement of recruitment efforts aimed at hiring five new faculty members, a decision that, we hope, can be reversed in the not too distant future so that the strengths of the Department can be maintained and augmented. As this issue of the *Newsletter* will once again demonstrate, the POLI Department is a particularly vibrant and vital part of the College and University, its faculty committed to advancing and transmitting political knowledge, information, and wisdom, and its students eager to participate in research, learning, and community service. POLI faculty are in fact critical to the education of roughly one thousand undergraduate and graduate majors, and to many additional students from across the campus (our courses enroll well over four thousand students every year).

POLI students have a great deal to brag about, as you will read. Our undergraduate majors continue to excel academically, to dominate student government and win scholarships and honors, and to seek opportunities through study abroad, guided research, conference participation, and civic engagement. Our

graduate students are equally active, productive, and successful, and the Department's placement record for its doctoral students, and for our MPA and MAIS students as well, continues to be strong.

A few of the outstanding faculty who guide, instruct, and encourage these students are also profiled in this issue of the *Newsletter*. Included are relative youngsters like Professor David Darmofal, more senior members like Professors John Hsieh and Donald Songer, and retiring Professors Blease Graham and Donald Puchala. Professors Graham and Puchala will be greatly missed, as each provided over many years both administrative and intellectual leadership to the Department in general, and to POLI students and colleagues in the areas of Public Administration (Graham) and International Relations (Puchala) in particular.

Readers will also learn from this issue about some of the events the Department has sponsored, or helped sponsor, over the past few months, as well as news from a few—too few—of our alumni. Please, if you are an alumni or alumnae, or a Department friend, contact us about your activities, career changes, honors, or other developments. Reach us by way of email at poli@sc.edu or by mail at the Department of Political Science, Gambrell Hall, USC, Columbia, SC 29208. Your interest in the Department is sincerely appreciated!

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Graduate Student Academic Placements

The Department's doctoral candidates continue to do very well in the academic marketplace, where jobs are highly competitive and, in the current economic environment, increasingly scarce. Last year, POLI helped place an unusually large number of our students at five institutions: **A. J. Barghothi** at the University of Wyoming, **Lucas McMillan** at Lander University, **Jennifer Barnes** at George Mason University, **John Szmer** at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and **Christina Sixta** at Francis Marion University. This year, two of our students secured positions.



Simona Kragh

Simona Kragh has accepted a tenure-track position as an Assistant Professor at Averett University, in Danville, Virginia, in the Department of History and Political Science. Averett is an institution devoted to small classes and intensive teaching, and Simona will be responsible for teaching (and also designing) a variety of courses. Simona's dissertation was supervised by Professor John Hsieh; it examined "The President, the Press, and Public Approval: Interactions and Media Management from Harry S. Truman to George W. Bush." Simona graduated in August of last year.



Kelly P. O'Reilly

Kelly P. O'Reilly has accepted a two-year, renewable, position as a Visiting Professor in the Government Department at St. Laurence University in Canton, New York. Kelly will receive his Ph.D. in Political Science next month. His dissertation, on "Beliefs and the Bomb: The Role of Leaders' World Views

and Strategic Interactions on Proliferation Decisions," was supervised by Professor Harvey Starr. At St. Laurence, K.P. will teach courses in international relations, including U.S. foreign policy.

Undergraduate Student News

Andrew Cederdahl won the American Atheists Founder's Scholarship, a unique, national, competitive scholarship award open to atheist college students. Andrew is a sophomore Political Science major. He won the award for his activism at USC, including organizing on-campus activities such as a February "Darwin Day" debate on the existence of God attended by more than 500 students and members of the public.

Cassidy Evans, an International Studies senior, will be representing USC at this year's Naval Academy Foreign Affairs Conference in April, with support from the Department. Participation includes submission of a paper and serving on a Roundtable discussion on this year's topic, "Bridging the Gap: Combating Global Poverty." Cassidy, who is a Capstone and McKissick Scholar, a member of the Carolina Judicial Council, and Chief Justice for Student Government, is deeply interested in the international dimensions of human poverty. After gradu-

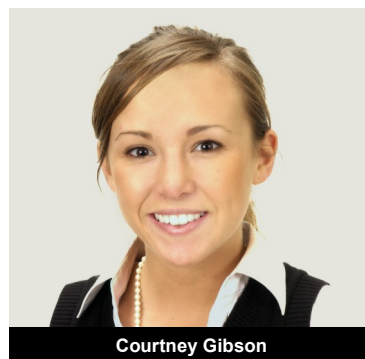
ating in May, she hopes to earn a Masters in Conflict Resolution and then pursue a law degree.

Courtney Gibson, pictured below, was one of two undergraduate students in 2008 to be awarded a highly competitive and prestigious "Rotary International Ambassadorial Academic and Cultural Scholarship." Courtney, who was also named the Outstanding Senior in Political Science in the Spring of 2008, has been working as a Research Assistant at the Consortium for Latino Immigration Studies in the Arnold School of Public Health here at USC. She was selected to be a Cultural Ambassador to Quito, Ecuador, a position she expects to fill sometime in the next year or so, the precise date to be determined once her plans for graduate school are

cemented. Whatever the exact date, Courtney will live with a local family while in Quito for a three month period studying Spanish and helping conduct a community service project, most likely a rural education or water purification project. The community service will exemplify the Rotary's ideal of "Service Above Self."

Robert John "R.J." May III, a Political Science and Criminal Justice double major, has been awarded a William Jefferson

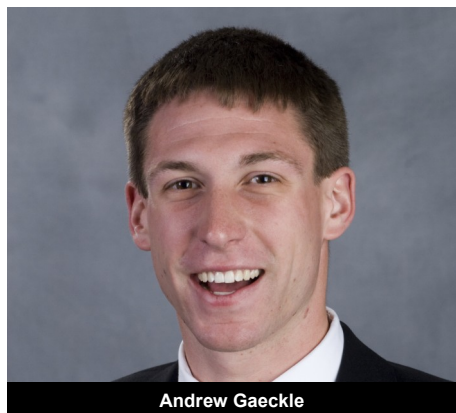
Clinton Scholarship to the American University in Dubai for the Spring 2009 semester. In addition to being named a Clinton Scholar, R. J. has also been awarded a Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship on behalf of the U. S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs,



Courtney Gibson

and the Institute of International Education. The Gilman Scholarship Program offers grants for U.S. citizen/undergraduates of limited financial means to pursue academic studies abroad, and R.J. is expected at American to enroll in courses in Arabic, comparative politics, and contemporary Middle East history. As a Clinton Scholarship student at American, R.J. will participate in the Clinton Presidential Foundation's efforts to strengthen the capacity of citizens throughout the world to meet the challenges of global interdependence.

Andrew Gaeckle and **Meredith Ross** have a good deal in common. He is the current President, and she is the current Vice President, of Student Government at



Andrew Gaeckle



Meredith Ross

Carolina. Both are POLI students, although Andrew is a senior majoring in International Studies, while Meredith is a junior who majors in Political Science (and Spanish). Both were appointed this Spring semester by President Pastides to serve on "Focus Carolina" committees. Focus Carolina is the name of the University's emerging, long-range, system-wide, strategic plan. Andrew will serve with faculty and other stakeholders on the Service Excellence Goal Committee, while Meredith will bring her interests and talents to the Research, Scholarship, and Creative Achievement Goal Committee. Coincidentally, Meredith will get to work with POLI Professor **Jill Frank**, who has also been appointed to that Committee.

The USC mock trial team recently competed in the Southeastern Regional mock Trial tournament in Chapel Hill, NC. With wins over Shaw University, Elon College, and Furman University, the team advanced to the first round of the National Championship tournaments to be held at Furman University on March 27-28. The team included POLI undergraduates **Amanda Kay Seals**, **Viki Alvarez**, **Kyle Warren**, **Heath Lanier**, **Michelle Fantone**, **John Gullede**, **Amanda Eskridge**, and **Kat King**. The team is coached by Professor **Don Songer**.

The Magellan Scholar program was created to facilitate and augment research opportunities for USC undergraduates, and POLI faculty have been active encouraging students to take advantage of these opportunities by pursuing guided research with them. Recent Magellan Scholars working with POLI faculty include **Rebekkah Boxt** and **Molly McDonald**, working with Professor **Don Songer**; **Julie Lanier**, working with Professor **Lee Walker**; and **Paige Martineau**, working with Professor **Mark Tompkins**.

Don Songer Awarded Olin D. Johnston Chair in Political Science

On the recommendations of the Department's Distinguished Professors, the Department Chair, College Dean Mary Anne Fitzpatrick, the University Committee on Named and Distinguished Professors, and the University Provost, Professor Donald R. Songer was appointed as the Olin D. Johnston Professor in Political Science by President Pastides this past January. The appointment recognizes and honors Don's international reputation as a leading scholar in the field of Public Law, his extraordinary success as a teacher and mentor to countless undergraduate and graduate students, and a record of distinguished service to the Department, the University, and the profession.

Widely recognized as *the* leading scholar on the U. S. Court of Appeals, Don has co-authored two books on that topic, and published well over fifty articles on a variety of subjects in the areas of public law and judicial behavior. His new book on *The Transformation of the Supreme Court of Canada: An Em-*



Don Songer

pirical Examination has just recently been published by the University of Toronto Press, and another co-authored book is on the way. Much of Don's research has been supported by well over 1.5 million dollars in grants from the National Science Foundation and other sources since the mid-1990s, grants that Don has in turn used to help support the education and training of innumerable students. Don has been particularly committed to cultivating and advancing the careers of POLI graduate students, developing their theoretical acumen and empirical skills, providing them with grant-generated financial support, and co-authoring with them a great many conference papers and publications. One fruit of this commitment has been Don's outstanding success at placing his doctoral students at such prominent colleges and universities as Vanderbilt, Georgia, Michigan State, North Carolina State, George Mason, the University of Connecticut, and many more.

Another beneficiary of Don's accomplishments and hard work has been the Department's own profile. Thanks to Don, POLI is widely recognized and highly ranked as a leading department in the field of Public Law, and that reputation has in turn attracted to the Department both first-rate graduate students and first-rate faculty. The Department's well-being has also been advanced by Don's administrative activities, as he has served conscientiously and effectively in a variety of committee and leadership roles, including Graduate Director from 1988-92 and again from 2000-06. Don has also served on a variety of University committees, advised and coached for many years award-winning USC Mock Trial teams, and has somehow found the time to serve as the pre-law advisor to countless students across the entire campus. Don has been equally active in the wider profession. For instance, he is currently a member of both the Executive Committee for the Law and Courts Organized section of the American Political Science Association, and the Executive Committee of the American Judicature Society. For a number of years, Don served as an Associate Editor of the *Journal of Politics*, and he is currently a member of the Editorial Board of the *Justice System Journal*.

Don received his Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, in 1975, and joined the Department as an Associate Professor in 1986. He was promoted to full Professor in 1993, and he won in 2002 the USC Educational Foundation Award for Research in the Social Sciences and Humanities. This newest honor, his appointment to the Olin Johnston Distinguished Chair, is equally deserved, a fitting recognition of excellence in research, teaching and service, and a happy occasion for the Department.

Graduate Student News

Congratulations are due those students who earned POLI graduate degrees this past December. **Todd Buehrig, Stacey Darracott, Erica Hink, Emma Lilley, Lindsey Moon, Adam Paige,** and **Vanessa Porela** graduated from the MPA Program. **Caylor Kirk, Courtney Nowak, Joel Spinney, Daphne St. Surin, Meredith Sykes,** and **Judith Whitley** all graduated from the MAIS Program, and **Wafaa Alaradi** earned an MA in Political Science. **John "Tony" Dukes** received his PhD in Political Science.

Congratulations are also due doctoral program student **Heather Hawn**, who was honored with a Mortar Board Award for excellence in teaching during the Fall semester.

And congratulations are due graduate students **Bryan Parsons** and **Helen King Stockstill**, both of whom recently secured publication successes. With former POLI faculty member Professor Ann Bowman as his co-author, Bryan's paper on "Vulnerability and Resilience in Local Government: Assessing the Strength of Performance Regimes," will appear in an upcoming issue of *State and Local Government Review*. And with former POLI faculty member James M. Douglas as her co-author, Helen's paper on "Starving the Death Penalty: Do Financial Constraints Limits Its Use?" was published in *Justice System Journal* 29 (2008).

Courtney Nowak, a December graduate of the MAIS Program, has secured a position as the State Trade Adjustment Assistance Coordinator for the Workforce Division of the SC Department of Commerce. The Trade Adjustment Assis-

tance program is a federal program that provides assistance and training to individuals whose jobs have been negatively impacted by international trade; the overall objective of the program in South Carolina is to increase the skill levels of the state's workforce.

Doctoral program student **Alex Nicholson** was interviewed by CNN on March 2 in connection with a U. S. House of Representatives' bill to repeal the U.S. military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law. Alex, a strong advocate of repeal, is no stranger either to media appearances or to this particular subject. In the past three years, he has appeared in well over ninety media outlets/events, a prominence due in part to the fact that he is the founder and current Director of Servicemembers United, an organization of young and recent veterans committed to repeal of the law. Alex has also given talks on this subject to the Kennedy School at Harvard, Stanford School of Law, the Naval Post-graduate School, and dozens of other colleges and universities around the country.

As always, a large number of POLI graduate students have presented (or soon will present) papers and posters at professional conferences. Recent examples include:

Ali Demierdas, with co-author Serhan Yalciner, will be presenting a paper at the Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science Association in April on "The Kurdish Question in the Context of Turkish-American Relations."

Michael Fox, with co-authors Kirk Randazzo and Richard Waterman, presented their paper on "State Supreme Courts and the Effects of Statutory Constraint: A Test of the Model of Contingent Discretion" at the Southern Political Science Association Annual Meeting in New Orleans in January.

Benjamin Kassow, **Michael Fox**, and Professor Don Songer, presented a paper on "The Influence of Precedent on State Supreme Courts" at the New Orleans meeting.

Nadia Jilani will present a paper exploring "Economic Sanctions: Unexpected Burden? A Glimpse into the Effects of Economic Sanctions on Human Rights," at the Annual Conference of the Midwest Political Science in April.

Genevieve Kehoe presented a paper at the Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association in February on "La Rage de Vouloir Conclure: The Effect of State Institutions on Conflict Behavior."

Athena King presented a paper on "State of Dissatisfaction: Factors Influencing State Filing of the 'No Child Left Behind' Lawsuit in Federal Court" at the February 28 annual meeting of the South Carolina Political Science Association at Furman University.

"Mandy" Hsiao-chaun Liao presented a poster at the January meeting of the Southern Political Science Association in New Orleans on "The rationale of Power Transition Theory: Rational Choice Perspective."

Young Hoon Song presented in February, at the Annual Convention of the International Studies Association in New York, a single-authored paper on "The Samaritan's Dilemma Revisited: Humanitarian Assistance on Conflicts and Forced Migration," and a paper co-authored with fellow POLI graduate student **Kelly P. O'Reilly** entitled "On the Wings of a 'Lame Duck': Assessing Foreign Policy Engagement of Second-Term U.S. Presidents." Song also presented a poster at the Annual Summer Meeting of the Society for Political Methodology at the University of Michigan in July of 2008.

Bryan Parsons will present a paper on "Emotions, Social Networks, and the Conditional Effects of the Quantity and Quality of Political Talk" at the upcoming Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago in April.

Adam Pernsteiner will also present at the Midwest conference; his paper is on "Deliberating Democracy: The Connection Between Jury Deliberation and Legitimacy."

Matthew Shaffer presented a paper on "Envy or Enmity: Regional Trade Agreements and External Conflict" at the International Studies Association meeting in February, and will present at the upcoming Midwest conference another paper, entitled "The Commercial Institutional Peace: Do Depth and Scope of Integration Matter?"

In addition, **Matthew Shaffer**, with fellow graduate student **Brian Warby**, will present a paper on "Resurgent Mercantilism? The Political Effects of Foreign Exchange Accumulation" at the upcoming Midwest conference.

Lauren Smith will also be presenting a paper at the Midwest, on "Religion, Voter Turnout and Issue Mobilization: Religion or Issues as a Mobilizing Factor in National Elections."

Eun Jeong Soh presented his paper on "Response to Famine: Political Processes of States in Crisis and Inter-

national Response,” at the February International Studies Association meeting.

Alan Tauber presented a paper on “International Law and the Attitudinal Model” at the Southern Political Science Association meeting in January, and will present at the Midwest conference another paper on “International Law and the Attitudinal Model: A View from the Court of Appeals.”

“**Charles**” **Chonghan Wu** will also present a paper at the upcoming Midwest conference, entitled “Games between Cats and Dogs: A Study of Conflict Escalation between Democratic and Non-Democratic Countries.

Eric Yi-Hung presented a paper on “The Logic of ASEAN’s Decision-Making: Theoretical Models and Empirical Examinations,” at the annual International Studies Association meeting in February.

Events

Atwater Film & Panel Discussion.

An award-winning documentary on the rise to prominence of Lee Atwater, a former doctoral candidate in POLI who became Chair of the national Republican Party, was the center of attention on the evening of March 31. That was when a Panel moderated by Professor **David Whiteman**, and consisting of Samuel Tenenbaum, a well-known political and community activist, and Warren Tompkins, a political consultant and former aide to Governor Carroll Campbell, screened and then discussed the film that both profiles Atwater (who died in 1991), and the controversial campaign politics he helped develop and practiced. The event, which was open to the public, was organized by Professor **Blease Graham** and sponsored by the Department.

PSRW Events. The Political Science Research Workshop, organized by Professors **David Darmofal** and **Neal Woods**, continues to provide opportunities for faculty, grad students, and outside speakers to present current research ideas and papers, typically every other Friday. During this Spring semester, outside speakers included Professor Christopher Achen, the Roger Williams Straus Professor of Social Sciences at Princeton University, who spoke on February 6 on “The Foundation is Crumbling: Democratic Theory in

the Light of the Evidence,” and Moore Business School Professor Gerald McDermott who, on March 6, presented a talk on “Transnational Integration Regimes as Development Programs.” Graduate student **Michael Fix** delivered to the PSRW a paper he co-authored with Professor **Kirk Randazzo** on January 23 on “State Supreme Courts and the Effects of Statutory Constraint.” On February 27, graduate student **Susanne Schorpp** presented her paper on “Judicial Decision Making in Changed Environments.” And the PSRW held a session on March 20 for multiple graduate students to deliver presentations of papers they were scheduled to present at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual conference in April.

Political Journalists Visit Campus. POLI Adjunct Professor **Don Fowler** has arranged to bring to campus three prominent journalists during the months of March and April. Jackie Calmes of *The New York Times* was here on March 26, and Roger Simon, of *Politico.com*, is scheduled to visit the campus on April 2, followed by Mara Liasson of *National Public Radio*.

Grad Student Workshops. Thanks to the organizing efforts of Graduate Director **Laura Woliver** and other Department faculty, the graduate

students have benefited from a variety of recent Workshops. On January 13, Professors Scott Frisch and Sean Q. Kelly, both members of the Department of Political Science at California State University Channel Islands, presented a Workshop on “Primary Sources & Archives 101: Political Science in the USC Political Collections Library.” These two individuals share research interests with our own Professor **Charles Finocchiaro**, who was the primary mover in arranging this particular event. Then, on January 30, Professors **Don Songer** and **Gordon Smith** provided a Workshop on “Grants 101.” In April, two more Workshops are planned: Professors **Anuadha Chakravarty** and **Lee Walker** will provide a Workshop entitled “Fieldwork 101” on April 17, and Professors **David Darmofal** and **Harvey Starr** will present “Publishing 101” on April 24.

Human Rights Conference. The Department helped sponsor, together with other units and the College of Arts and Sciences, the Eleventh Annual Comparative Literature Conference on “The Future of Human Rights: Moral, Legal, and Political Cultures.” The Conference took place at the Clarion Hotel in downtown Columbia from February 26-28, and drew participants from around the nation and world.

Walker Institute Conference. The Walker Institute will be hosting, with Department support, a Workshop on the U.S. in World Affairs during the first weekend in May. Invited participants include POLI International Studies alumni who

will share duties on a number of roundtables devoted to examining the challenges facing the new administration in Washington. The event will also provide participants with the opportunity to offer well wishes to Sallie Buice, Business

Manager of the Walker Institute, and POLI Professor Donald Puchala, a past Director of the Institute, both of whom will soon be retiring.

Faculty News and Recent Publications

Emeritus Professor **Roger Coate** has been awarded the Ladd Hollist Service Award by the International Studies Association Governing Council “in recognition of his outstanding service and commitment to [that] Association.” For decades, Roger has been an active and leading member of ISA, serving in many key posts. Recently, he agreed to chair a newly restructured and financially augmented Workshops Grants Committee which, under his leadership, developed new rules and processes for grants awards that, in the words of the Association’s current President, “will impact on and stimulate emerging new research” in international studies for some time to come.

Professor **Charles Finocchiaro’s** chapter on “Distributive and Partisan Politics in the U.S. Senate: An Exploration of Earmarks,” co-authored with Michael Crespín, appears in the University of Chicago Press volume edited by Monroe, Roberts, and Rhode, *Why Not Parties? Party Effects in the United States Senate* (2008).

Professor **Matthew Fuhrmann** has published “Talking a Walk on the Supply Side: The Determinants of Civilian Nuclear Cooperation,” in the *Journal of Conflict Resolution* 53 (April 2009).

Professor **Heather Getha-Taylor’s** article, “Identifying Collaborative Competencies,” was selected as the best article published in the *Review of Public Personnel Administration* in 2008. An award marking the selection was presented to Heather at the annual meeting of the Section on Personnel Administration and Labor Relations at the American Society of Public Administration National Conference on March 22 in Miami. In addition, Heather recently published “Managing the ‘New Normalcy’ with Values-Based Leadership: Lessons from Admiral James Loy,” in *Public Administration Review* 69 (2009): 200-206.

Emeritus Professor **Betty Glad** is pleased to announce that Cornell University Press will be publishing in 2009 her book, *An Amateur in the White House: Jimmy Carter, his Advisors, and the Making of US Foreign Policy*. Betty also has in press for 2009 an essay on Dwight Eisenhower in *The Encyclopedia of US Political History* (Congressional Quarterly Press), and another piece, entitled “A Critique of Rank’s Essay” in the journal *Political Psychology*. In addition, Betty recently published a review of Timothy Colton’s book on *Yeltsin: A Life*, with former graduate student **Michael Master** in *The Russian Review* 68 (January 2009).

Professor **Robert Oldendick** served as Program Chair for the 2009 annual meeting of the Association of Academic Survey Research Organizations, held in Columbia, February 26-28.

Professor **Kirk Randazzo** served as the Section Chair for the Judicial Politics Section at the 2009 meeting of the Southern Political Science Association in New Orleans in January. Kirk was also invited to participate on the Advisory Panel for the Law and Social Science Division of the National Science Foundation, and to serve on the Best Journal Award Committee for the Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association.

Professors **Kirk Randazzo** and **Lee Walker**, with Kirill M. Bumin, published “Institutional Viability and High Courts: A Comparative Analysis,” in the *Australian Journal of Political Science* 44 (March 2009): 127-153.

Professor **Harvey Starr** served as Editor of a Special Issue on “Failed States” in the journal of *Conflict Management and Peace Science* 25 (Winter 2008). Together with co-authors Bruce Russett and David Kinsella, Harvey also published in January the 9th edition of *World Politics: The Menu for Choice*

(Wadsworth). Harvey was also invited to serve a three year term (2009-2011) on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Politics*.

Professor **Wen Wang** was appointed to the Editorial Board of the Chinese *Journal of Public Administration*, and recently finished editing a Symposium for that journal on public finance reforms.

Professor **Neal Woods** has published an article on “Serving Two Masters? State Implementation of Federal Regulatory Policy,” in *Public Administration Quarterly* 32 (Winter 2008): 569-594. Neal also published, with David M. Konisky and Ann O’M. Bowman, an article on “You Get What You Pay For: Environmental Policy and Public

Health,” in *Publius: The Journal of Federalism* 39 (Winter 2009): 95-116.

David Darmofal: Profile

Assistant Professor David Darmofal’s research interests range across political behavior and political methodology. He is particularly interested in the intersection of political geography and political behavior, including understanding how the spatial locations and spatial interactions of political actors shape their behavior, and in examining how quantitative methods can be applied in examining these questions.

David’s research has been published in a variety of journals. His article, “Bayesian Spatial Survival Models for Political Event Processes,” was published in the January 2009 issue of the *American Journal of Political Science*. His article, “The Aggregate Dynamics of Campaigns,” co-authored with Janet M. Box-Steffensmeier and Christian A. Farrell, was published in the January 2009 issue of the *Journal of Politics*. He has also published articles in *Political Geography*, *Political Research Quarterly*, and *American Politics Research*. Currently, David is writing a book, *Spatial Analysis for the Social Sciences*, which is under contract at Cambridge University Press. The book is designed for researchers and methodologists in a broad range of disciplines, including anthropology, criminology, demography, political science, sociology, and public health. David examines the importance of the spatial dimension in many social science theories, and demonstrates the implications of spatial dependence for our models of behavior. The book explains how spatial analysis can be applied to a variety of research questions and a variety of models, including survival, time-series-cross-sectional, and Bayesian models.



David Darmofal

David has been active in service to the Department, University, and the discipline. Within the POLI Department, he has served on the Advisory Committee, the Graduate Committee, the Undergraduate Committee, search committees, on several Ph.D. dissertation committees, and he is the co-organizer of the Political Science Research Workshop. Within the University, he has served as a Faculty Senator and a Faculty Associate at Preston Residential College. Within the political science discipline, he has served on the Program Committee of the Midwest Political Science Association’s Annual Meeting, the Warren Miller Prize Committee, the Oxford Centenary Celebrations Award Committee, and the Graduate Student Selection Committee for the Society for Political Methodology’s Annual Meeting. This year, he will be serving as Section Chair for the Political Methodology Section at the Southern Political Science Association’s Annual Meeting, and as Section Chair for the Political Geography Section at the Midwest Political Science Association’s Annual Meeting.

David received his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and joined the POLI faculty in 2005, after completing a post-doctoral fellowship in quantitative methods at Ohio State University. As a first-rate methodologist, David regularly teaches one of the two required methods courses for our doctoral students, always to considerable acclaim.

John Hsieh: Profile

Professor John Hsieh received his Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Rochester, and taught for many years at the National Chengchi University in Taiwan. In January of 1999, John joined the POLI Department, where he has taught a wide variety of courses in comparative politics and positive political theory, and has served a variety of administrative posts (he is currently the Department's Placement Director, and a member of the Graduate Committee for the MAIS and PhD Programs). John has traveled extensively in Asia, and has given talks at such institutions as National Chengchi University, National Taiwan University, and Academia Sinica in Taiwan, Jilin University and Fudan University in China, the Chinese University of Hong Kong in Hong Kong, and National University of Singapore in Singapore. He has also maintained an active research agenda, writing extensively on such issues as democratization, constitutional choice, electoral systems, electoral behavior, party politics and foreign policy.

John is currently working on several book projects. One book theorizes democratization in China by comparing that Asian and Confucian nation to comparable societies like Taiwan and South Korea. John views democratization as a bargaining process between those in power and those in opposition, and contends that the key to the success of democratization lies, to a large degree, in the resources possessed by the opposition vis-à-vis those in power. In Taiwan and South Korea, democratization was (and is) propelled, John argues, by factors that provided needed resources for the opposition in their struggles against those in power. These factors included, besides socio-economic development and the emergence of a pluralistic social order, cultural change, and foreign influence, ethnic/national identity division in the case of Taiwan and regionalism in the case of South Korea. By contrast, John argues that the prospect of the emergence of a powerful opposition is less likely in China, even given the remarkable economic development there, because the kinds of divisions present in Taiwan and South Korea on which opposition forces were able to draw are much less pronounced in China. The sheer size of China is another important factor, John argues, since any democratic opposition movements originating in local or regional spaces are more easily contained by the central government.

In another book project, John analyzes survey data to trace the change of electoral politics in Taiwan over time. His research findings show some interesting patterns that are different from many other societies. John argues that these patterns result largely from Taiwan's Confucian heritage, and the divided nature of the society. He is also writing a book on comparative politics by using the rational choice approach, covering such topics as social choice theory, collective action problems, constitutional choice, electoral systems, and electoral behavior. Entitled *Positive Political Theory*, the Chinese version of the book has just been completed, and it will be published in China and Taiwan.



John Hsieh

Alumni News

Greg Plagens, an Assistant Professor at The University of Akron and a graduate of our MPA and doctoral programs, will soon be publishing a paper he presented in July of 2008 at an international conference in Prato, Italy. Entitled "The Role of Formal Leaders in Growing and Maintaining Social Capital," the paper will be published in *The International Journal of Interdisciplinary Social Science*.

Boyd Summers, another graduate of POLI's MPA Program, has recently

been named by *The State* newspaper as one of the "20 under 40," referring to twenty young men and women recognized as leaders in their communities. Among his many activities, Boyd, who has run for political office in the past and may do so in the future, is the current Chair of the Richland County Democratic Party.

Thad H. Westbrook was also named by *The State* as a member of this year's "20 under 40." Thad majored in Political Science while a student in Caro-

lina's Honors College, after which he earned a law degree from Carolina's Law School. Now a partner at the Nelson Mullins Riley and Scarborough law firm, Thad's community activities include service as Vice Chair of USC's Board of Visitors and a member of the Board of Visitors of the Medical University of South Carolina.

The photo on the next page, taken during time out festivities at the New York City meeting of the International Studies Association in February, pictures a

number of the Department's International Studies alumni together with Professor Jerald Rosati, Walker Institute Business Manager Sallie Buice, and current doctoral student Kelly O'Reilly. Pictured from right to left are Sallie and Kelly, followed by Darin Van Tassell (Georgia Southern University), Katie Verlin Laatikainen (Adelphi University, NYC), Jean Garrison (University of Wyoming), Michael Kuchinsky (Gardner-Webb University), Emek Ucarer (Bucknell University), Alynna Lyon (University of New Hampshire), Professor Rosati, Ken Menkhaus (Davidson College), and Ken Rogerson (Duke University).



Faculty Retirements

Two of the Department's most cherished faculty, Professor Blease Graham and Brynes Distinguished Professor Donald Puchala, are retiring at the end of this semester or summer. Professor Graham has done much to advance our knowledge of state and regional politics, while Professor Puchala has advanced our knowledge of international affairs. Both men have been influential forces in this Department and University, and in the profession, and both have contributed substantially to the Department's reputation in South Carolina, in the Nation, and around the world. Both have also been extremely effective teachers, not just of countless students, but of their academic colleagues and public and elite audiences. They will be very much missed by their POLI colleagues, staff members, and students.



Cole Blease Graham, Jr.

Cole Blease Graham, Jr. earned his Ph.D. in the field of American State and Local Government from the University of South Carolina in 1971, under the direction of Chester Bain and Jim Larson. A native South Carolinian, Blease graduated from Irmo High School and then went on to study government and economics at Wofford College. In a self-defined "wandering year" after college, he earned a master's degree in social sciences at Northwestern Louisiana State College, where he wrote a thesis in political theory. He then earned a second master's degree in governmental administration at the Fels Institute of Local and State Government at the University of Pennsylvania. His thesis on coordinating field operations in social services administration was directed by Tom Davy. After his field work at Fels with the Commissioner of Police in Philadelphia and the city manager of Mt. Holly, New Jersey, Blease interned at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, and continued employment there as a junior administrative assistant to Guy Tozzoli, the Director of the Authority's World Trade Department, before entering USC.

Ever since then, Blease has studied state and local government institutions and politics, and their connections with public administration theory and practice. His special focus has been on political processes and administrative issues in the American South and

South Carolina. Widely respected as an expert in these areas, Blease has probably provided over the years more interviews to more mass media outlets on these and related topics than any Political Science faculty member past or present. It is one of his many contributions to the Department and University.

In 1971, Blease was appointed Assistant Professor in the Department, and also Research Associate in the Bureau of Governmental Research and Services. He worked with Bureau Director Robert Stoudemire in management capacity development programs for a variety of South Carolina state agencies and local governments with funding from HEW and HUD. He also assisted Professor Richard Nathan at Princeton University and The Brookings Institution in national evaluation studies of revenue sharing and the community development block grant program. Before promotion to Professor in 1994, Blease was a consultant to the Regional Medical Program at the Medical University of South Carolina, the Area Health Education Center at Richland Memorial Hospital, the South Carolina Hospital Association, the South Carolina Municipal Association, the Association of Counties, a State Reorgani-

zation commission, various councils of governments, cities and counties in South Carolina, and the IBM corporation.

Blease has also served over the years in a variety of administrative capacities at the University. He was Vice Chair of the Department, Director of the Department's MPA Program on several occasions, interim Dean and Dean of the College of Criminal Justice, Associate Dean for Student Academic Services in the College of Liberal Arts, and interim Dean of the College of Liberal Arts. He is the author, co-author or co-editor of seven books and more than eighty articles, book chapters, field reports, and other published items. His major publications include: *South Carolina Politics and Government*, *The South Carolina State Constitution: A Reference Guide*, *Managing the Public Organization*, and *Handbook of Court Administration and Management*. He is presently working on a study of recent South Carolina elections.

Donald J. Puchala, Byrnes Professor of International Studies, earned a Ph.D. in the field of International Relations from Yale University in 1966 under the direction of Karl W. Deutsch. He is a student of International Relations Theory, particularly as it addresses problems of international cooperation, organization and integration. He is also a specialist on Western European International Relations, the politics and economics of the European Union and United Nations affairs.

Prior to his appointment at the University of South Carolina in 1982, Don taught at Yale University, the State University of New York at Buffalo and at Columbia University, where he attained the rank of Full Professor and also served as Associate Dean of the Columbia School of International and Public Affairs and Director of the Institute on Western Europe. Don has held visiting ap-



Donald J. Puchala

pointments at Harvard University, the University of Pennsylvania, Carleton University and Kyung-Hee University in Seoul, Korea. At the University of South Carolina, he was the Director of the Richard L. Walker Institute of International and Area Studies between 1982 and 2001. He has been a consultant to the State Department and the Foreign Service Institute, the United States Department of Commerce, the Central Intelligence Agency, the United Nations and various academic institutions and foundations. His service also includes Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Academic Council on the United Nations System, Chairman of the Council for European Studies, member of the Executive Committee of the European Community Studies Association, and President of the South Carolina Political Science Association. He is currently a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Don has conducted numerous research projects in Western Europe and elsewhere under grants from the Social Science Research Council, the Carnegie Foundation, the Ford and Rockefeller Foundations, the German Marshall Fund and the United States Department of Education. He is the author or editor of twenty books and more than ninety articles and chapters. His major publications include: *Western European Perspectives on Interna-*

tional Affairs, *International Politics Today*, *Global Food Interdependence*, *Fiscal Harmonization in the European Communities*, *The Challenge of Relevance: The United Nations in a Changing World Environment*, *Immigration Into Western Societies*, *Visions of International Relations*, *Theory and History in International Relations*, and *United Nations Politics*. He is presently working on a study of historical episodes of international terrorism.

Throughout Don's distinguished career, he has been an enormously popular, award-winning, and effective teacher whose students have gone on to academic and public service careers throughout the United States and in many places around the globe.



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