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Political Science Spring 2008

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Department of Political Science

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Newsletter

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With May Commencement looming, the POLI Department brings to a close another busy and productive year of teaching, research, and service. This is also the final issue of the *POLI Newsletter* for the 2007-2008 academic year, and in its pages we try to provide an overview of the events, activities, and accomplishments that have transpired since the last issue of the *Newsletter* appeared in February. Chief among the accomplishments is the extraordinary success enjoyed by our doctoral students in landing impressive academic appointments at higher educational institutions across the country. Also worthy of celebration is the large number of our undergraduate students who have distinguished themselves through the receipt of prestigious awards and other forms of acknowledgment. On a quite different note, the Department is saddened to report the retirement of Dr. Betty Glad, who completes her long and distinguished career at the conclusion of the Spring Semester. As always, however, space limitations preclude a complete accounting of all that has been accomplished by our students, staff, and faculty. Any critical omissions will hopefully be rectified in the next edition of the *Newsletter*, which will appear during the Fall Semester, 2008.

As noted in earlier editions, the *Newsletter* is issued four times per year (twice each semester). We are especially interested in hearing from alumni and friends concerning any relevant activities, honors, career changes, or other developments among our POLI community. We can be contacted via 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!

GRADUATE STUDENT ACADEMIC PLACEMENTS, 2007-2008

Although POLI typically graduates two or three doctoral student intent upon pursuing academic careers in any given year, the “output” this year was unusual. In all, five recent (or immediate) graduates obtained professional positions consistent with their career aspirations. These include:



A.J. Barghothi, who has worked closely with Professor Ann Bowman, has accepted a position as an Assistant Professor at the University of Wyoming in Laramie, Wyoming. His research interests include American political institutions, judicial politics, and state government and politics. His dissertation examines the separation of power between state legislatures and state courts by investigating the use of state constitutional amendments to overturn state supreme court decisions.



Lucas McMillan, who will be an August graduate, was placed at Lander University in Greenwood, SC as an Assistant Professor of political science. His teaching interests include world politics, American foreign policy, and European Politics. Lucas’s dissertation topic, chaired by Dr. Harvey Starr, combined his interest in both international relations and American politics into a dissertation entitled “Transforming Statecraft: The Involvement of American State Governments and Governors in U.S. Foreign Relations.”



Another August graduate, **Jennifer Barnes**, will be joining the political science department at George Mason. While at USC, Jennifer studied American politics, with a particular interest in judicial politics. True to her interests, Jennifer’s dissertation, chaired by Dr. Don Songer is titled “Anticipating Supreme Court Response: Under What Conditions do Federal Circuit Courts of Appeals Judges Fear Reversal from the Supreme Court?”



John Szmer, who officially obtained his PhD in Political Science in 2005, has accepted a tenure-track position at the University of North Carolina – Charlotte. John received both his B.A. and J.D. degrees from the University of Georgia, after which he transferred to USC to study Public Law under Professor Donald Songer. Although his training includes both the American Politics and Methodology fields, his research focuses primarily on explaining appellate decision-making in common law courts. His work has been published in *Political Research Quarterly*, *Law and Society Review*, and *Judicature*. John is pictured at left, surrounded by his two children Gwen (4 years old) and Zach (two years old).



Christina Sixta, a May graduate, will be joining the faculty at Francis Marion University in Florence, SC. Christine's dissertation, chaired by Professor Donald Puchala, is titled "Volatile Breeding Grounds: The Origins of Terrorism Within Social Movements." While at Francis Marion, Christine will be teaching classes in both international relations and comparative politics, with particular foci on terrorism, conflict, and Latin American politics.

UNDERGRADUATE ACTIVITIES AND NEWS

Because our Department enrolls over 850 undergraduate majors, it is a daunting challenge to even brush the surface of their many activities and accomplishments. One indication of the Department's student footprint on USC is the fact that POLI students are heavily represented in student government every year. Next year will be no exception, in that both the President and Vice-President of the Student Government Association in 2008-2009 will be POLI majors. **Andrew Gaeckle**, an International Studies student, will serve as President, while **Meredith Ross**, a Political Science major, will hold the office of Vice-President. Andrew was recently featured in a press account of his Study Abroad experiences in Dakar and Senegal.

Another group of students – those who have achieved high levels of academic success in their Political Science majors – were inducted into the Political Science National Honor Society on Awards Day, which was held on April 17th. The Honor Society – **Pi Sigma Alpha** – was proud to confer membership on the following students: **Bethany Adams, Kelly Amell, Thomas A. Blackmon, Meg Chrusciel, Joni Elizabeth Dickerson, Mary Katherine Gambla, Jessica S. Grainger, Heyward Harvin, Diane Keller, Thomas A. Limehouse, Jr., Blake J. Montgomery, Haley Mottel, Kyle Peterson, William C. Thompson, and Chenwei Zhang.**

Another student worthy of quite extraordinary note is **Asma Jaber**, a double major in International Studies and Anthropology. Asma has been named to the second team in USA Today's 2008 All-USA College Aca-

democratic Team program. This program honors full-time undergraduates who not only excel in scholarship but also extend their intellectual abilities beyond the classroom to benefit society. Jaber had already been named a Truman Scholar, a Palmetto Fellow, and a University Scholar! Her passion for helping immigrants and refugees contributed to her selection. She has worked at advocacy centers for immigrants trying to meet their health-care needs, and chaired the SC Fast-a-Thon which encouraged the community to assist Iraq child war victims. Asma Jaber was the only South Carolinian named to any USA Today Academic Team.

GRADUATE STUDENTS ACTIVITIES AND HONORS

POLI graduate students garnered a large measure of recognition, as usual, during the academic year. During Graduate Student Awards Day, the following students were honored:

Kelly O'Reilly – Excellence in the Fields of International Relations and Comparative Politics

Raul Sanchez-Urribarri -- Excellence in the Fields of American Politics and Public Administration

Alan Tauber – Outstanding Teaching by a Graduate Assistant

Meanwhile, the MPA Program conferred the Sam Carter Award for outstanding academic and professional performance on three students: **Alyson Goff, Lindsay Moon, and Lyndsey Myers**. Additionally, the award for having the most impressive GPA went to **Amy Lindler**.

And an almost unprecedented number of POLI doctoral students presented papers at this year's Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association in San Francisco. Travel support was provided by the College and Department. Eight students produced nine papers that were accepted by various sections of the ISA for presentation on conference panels:

Aleksandra Chauhan, "The Idea and Reality of Children's Rights in the World"

Eric Yi-hung Chiou, "The Sophisticated Calculation: The Game Theory Simulation of China's Southeast Asia Policy in the Post-Cold War Era" AND "Two-Level Game Analysis of the AFTA Agreement: What Causes ASEAN States to Move Toward Economic Independence?"

Jihyun Kim, "Regime, Hegemon, and the Logic of Two-Level Games: WTO vs. the United States"

Chenghong Li, "Does China Need to be Contained? Increasing Interdependence Between China and the United States and its Implications to Chinese Foreign Policy"

Roger Chi-feng Liu, "Regime Types, War Participation, and Battle Deaths in the Twentieth Century"

Swapna Pathak, "National Resource Type and Civil War"

Dona Roy, "The 'Spotlight' Phenomenon and States' Repressive Tendencies: Do States Care About What NGOs Think?"

Young Hoon Song, "To Coordinate or be Coordinated? International Organizations' Bureaucratic Behavior and its Change Toward Internally Displaced Persons"

PROFESSOR BETTY GLAD RETIRES



Betty Glad, who joined the POLI faculty in 1989 after spending many years at the University of Illinois, retires at the end of the Spring Semester, 2008. She received her PhD from the University of Chicago, and enjoyed a remarkable career focusing on the American Presidency and U.S. foreign policy. Betty holds the Olin B. Johnston Professor of Political Science Distinguished Chair, and has received an impressive array of awards, including the Frank D. Goodnow Award of the American Political Science Association for a lifetime of contributions and service to the field of Political Science, and the Harold Lasswell Award of the International Society for Political Psychology (1997) for a lifetime of outstanding contributions to political psychology. In addition, Betty served as President of the International Society for Political Psychology, President of the Presidency Research Section of the American Political Science Association, and Vice-President of the American Political Science Association. She is currently serving on the Development Committee of that Association.

Betty's publications include: *Striking First: The Preventive War Doctrine and the Reshaping of U.S. Foreign Policy* (Palgrave MacMillan, 2004), *The Russian Transformation: Political, Sociological and Psychological Aspects* (Palgrave/St.Martin's, 2000), *The Psychological Dimensions of War* (Sage Publications, 1990), *Key Pittman: The Tragedy of the Senate Insider* (Norton, 1980), and *Charles Evan Hughes and the Illusion of Innocence* (University of Illinois Press, 1966). Additionally, Betty is completing another book on the Carter presidency, and throughout her career wrote numerous journal articles, book chapters, reviews, and essays.

While at USC, Betty served on many committees and task forces, including the University Committee on Tenure and Promotion, the University Press Committee, and the Faculty Advisory Committee of the University Senate. She retires as one of the nation's leading scholars on the Presidency, but leaves behind a large number of students and academicians whose careers she fostered through mentoring and dissertation supervision. Her retirement will be strongly felt by the Department and University.

POLI SUPPORTS VARIETY OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Roosevelt Rx – The Department subsidized a visit by six USC students to the National Student Health Policy Forum held in Washington, D.C. on March 13th and 14th, 2008. The purpose of the Forum was to “engage students around issues relevant to young adults in the coming 2008 election and empower them to turn their ideas into policy change.” The Roosevelt Institution is a student-based think-tank that was established at USC in 2007, and has hosted a variety of speakers, panels, and debates during its brief existence. The six students who participated in the Health Forum included Sydney Daigle (Anthropology and Women's Studies), Jeet Guram (BARSC), Samir Panvelker (Anthropology and Medical Humanities), Kelly Scriven (BARSC), Jessica Steele (BARSC), and Alex Wang (Political Science). The ideas that originated during the Forum will be published in a journal format by Roosevelt Rx during the Summer of 2008.

South Carolina Student Legislature – POLI also helped to support the local delegation of the SC Student Legislature (SCSL) at the annual Spring Mock Legislature session in Myrtle Beach. The SCSL is a well-known mock legislature that is completely student-operated. Its member delegations represent 14 colleges and universities in the State, and meet twice annually to debate bills and further their understanding of the legislative process and parliamentary procedures. USC's delegation is the largest in the State, and is composed primarily of Political Science and International Studies students. The delegation meets weekly to prepare for the state-wide sessions. POLI provided financial support to the entire 14-member group representing USC. The students who attended were: Chairman Zach Pippin, Vice Chairwoman Anna Henderson, Jim Sproat, Tom Ruff, Furman Lovett, Jennifer Clinkscales, Sarah Banks, Alex Tracy, Jessica Silvaggio, Clark Gilmore, Corbin Henderson, Laura Ware, Chelsea Paulson, and Britney Lyddle.

Political Science Research Workshops – On almost every Friday afternoon during the Fall and Spring Semesters, POLI faculty organize research presentations from our own colleagues, graduate students, and guest lecturers from other universities. The program this year has been coordinated by Professors **David Darmofal** and **Neal Woods**, who managed to arrange an impressive set of presenters and topics during the two semesters. The idea behind the workshops is to provide faculty and graduate students an opportunity to air their research in a collegial, supportive, environment, as well as to expose the participants to new research themes and trends. Notable among the “outside” speakers who appeared during the Spring Semester were: **Venelin Ganey**, Miami University, who spoke on “The Transformation of State Structures in Early Post-communism: A Historical-Sociological Approach”, and **Jennifer Nerit**, Florida State University, who spoke on “Issue Publics, News Attention, and the Information Environment.”

The West Forum – This program, which was founded by former Governor John West, provides support for a variety of activities aimed at furthering the educations of USC students. Directed on campus by Professors **Bob Angel** and **Bleese Graham**, the Forum held (among other events) a Symposium on Immigration Reform on Tuesday, March 18th. Participating in the symposium were Senator James Ritchie, Ms. Leslie Hope of The Associated General Contractors, and Roan Garcia-Quintana of the Coalition for a Traditional America.

ALUMNI NEWS

David Carroll (PhD, 1993) is the Director of the Carter Center for Democracy at Emory University. He has recently been nominated as one of USC's Distinguished Alumni.

Maria Antoinette DiFranco (International Studies, 1991; MA 1994) is a P&C Business development representative with T.M. Floyd and Company.

Rose Jackson (MPA, 1982) received the Diplomat of the Year Award from the Columbia Chamber of Commerce in late 2007. She has served as a liaison between the Chamber staff and numerous civic groups.

Grace Stewart (MPA 2007) recently began serving as the Nurse-Family Partnership Coordinator at the Office of First Steps in Columbia.

Edward Jason Waller (MPA, 2006) is an assistant auditor with the Legislative Audit Council and a Second Lieutenant in the S.C. National Guard.

Jack Weatherford (Political Science, 1967) is a cultural anthropologist now teaching at Macalester College in Minnesota. Jack received his PhD from the University of California, San Diego, and has authored numerous books and articles dealing primarily with the Mongol nation, Genghis Khan, Native Americans, and even a best-selling book titled *The History of Money*.

Stephen William Yarborough (Political Science, 1982) is Director of Central Program Operations of the Child Support Enforcement Division of the SC Division of Social Services.

FACULTY AWARDS AND ACTIVITIES

Brian Fry, Professor Emeritus, reports that the second edition of his book, *Mastering Public Administration* (Congressional Quarterly Press, 2008) has recently been released. For the new edition, Brian added Jos Raadschelders (Edition in Chief of *Public Administration Review*) as a co-author.

David Darmofal's article, "The Political Geography of the New Deal Realignment," was recently accepted for publication in *American Politics Research*. He is also currently writing a book on spatial analysis for the social sciences, which is under contract at Cambridge University Press. In addition, he served as a discussant for a panel on "Financing Campaigns: Donating Money and Labor" at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago.

Donald Fowler received the College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Award for outstanding accomplishments in public service. Don has been a long-time (and extremely popular!) adjunct professor since leaving his full-time academic position at USC years ago to pursue political consulting and related activities. A former Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, Don is a continuing force in national politics, and has aided USC students in innumerable ways through mentoring, teaching, internships, and other introductions to the world of practical politics. He continues to teach large sections of Southern Politics, Political Parties, and related courses to a new generation of USC students.

Heather Getha-Taylor (with Jooho Lee) has received word that their article, "Changing Competencies for Human Resource Management: Examining E-Government Scorecard and Federal Human Capital Survey Evidence," has been accepted for publication in the *International Journal of Public Sector Performance Management*.

Blease Graham, along with MPA student **Sam Wellborn**, presented a paper titled "Party Identification among South Carolinians, 1990-2007," at The Citadel Symposium on Southern Politics, March 7, 2008, in Charleston. **Blease** also convened a roundtable discussion – "The 2008 Nominating Primaries" – at the Meeting of the South Carolina Political Science Association, South Carolina State University, Orangeburg, on March 1st.

Steve Hays received an award for Outstanding Scholarship in Public Sector Human Resources at the American Society for Public Administration Annual Meeting in Dallas, TX on March 8, 2008.

Mona Lyne's article, "Proffering Pork: How Party Leaders Build Party Reputations in Brazil," appears in the April, 2008 issue of the *American Journal of Political Science* (52:2): 290-303.

Harvey Starr organized and chaired the panel, "Dealing with the Phenomenon of Failed States: Crossing Analytic Boundaries," at the annual meeting of the International Studies Association, March 26-29, in San Francisco. The participants and papers that were presented on this panel will appear later this year in a Special Issue of "Failed States" in the journal *Conflict Management and Peace Science*. Harvey also co-authored a paper with former POLI colleague Zaryab Iqbal on "Bad Neighbors: Failed States and Their Consequences," which was also delivered at the ISA Conference in San Francisco.

Mark Tompkins presented a paper titled "Guardians of the Public: Professional Discipline in Law and Medicine" at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago. He also chaired a panel on Health Reform.





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