Fall 2010

Political Science Fall 2010

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**Recommended Citation**

Sabia, Dan, "Political Science Fall 2010" (2010). *Political Science Newsletter Fall 2010*. 1.
[https://scholarcommons.sc.edu/poli_newsletter_2010_fall/1](https://scholarcommons.sc.edu/poli_newsletter_2010_fall/1)
This newest academic year brings to the POLI Department four new faculty members, a new website, and also a great many new students. Our new faculty members are introduced on the next page of this Fall issue of the Newsletter. The website is a work in progress, but we hope you will agree that it already does a better job presenting the Department, its programs and faculty, to prospective students and other interested audiences, communicating to our current students, and providing for all visitors updated news and events information. Please visit the website at http://www.cas.sc.edu/poli and let us know what you think.

When this Newsletter goes to press the November elections will be over and important changes will be effected in the state of South Carolina (a first woman Governor?), in the Congress (a new majority in the House?), and in local, state, and national policies and laws (moving right?). On October 19, as part of its mission to inform and educate citizens and students, the POLI Department held a pre-election panel in which POLI faculty identified and analyzed public opinion polls, predicted vote choices and election results, and explained some of the likely short- and long-term consequences of those choices and outcomes. Departmental events like this one are only a small part of our teaching and service missions, and their quality is largely dependent on our success in meeting yet another mission, and that is the production of knowledge about politics—producing accurate, insightful, and innovative understandings, descriptions, explanations, theories—which we disseminate in books and articles, in classes and media appearances, and at events like the pre-election panel.

How can we measure our success in meeting these various missions? There is little agreement on which measures are best, though there is agreement that no measures are perfect. Here are a few suggestions which, it so happens, connect to the news items that you will find in this issue of the Newsletter. With respect to teaching, for example, we can look to our graduate programs and ask how successful we are in moving our students through the programs in a timely manner while providing them the kinds of training and opportunities they need in order to achieve the career positions to which they aspire. We can ask whether our undergraduate majors are finding the support and opportunities they need to develop their knowledge, interests, and characters, and whether they are able to secure in the public or private sector worthwhile careers or are able to compete successfully for limited seats in graduate or law schools of their choice. A glance at the sections in this Newsletter on the accomplishments of our undergraduate majors and our graduate students, on news from a few of our alumni, and on our latest efforts to support and nurture our undergraduates, provides good indications that we are enjoying success.

By the same token, a look at the several sections on individual faculty and faculty news will provide some evidence of the degree to which POLI faculty are successful in meeting the mission demand for research and scholarship. POLI faculty members are publishing their research in prestigious journals and presenting their work at many varied professional conferences and meetings; they are also winning research grants and distinguished fellowships, and being appointed to editorial boards and leadership positions in professional associations. Collectively, the POLI faculty is meeting its teaching, service and research missions, enhancing the education and success of its students, communicating what they know to citizens and interested public officials, and adding to the world’s storehouse of evolving political knowledge and understanding.
Department Welcomes New Faculty

POLI is delighted to announce and to welcome the addition of four new faculty members to the Department. Assistant Professors Amanda Licht, Ellen Moule, and Xuhong Su have all joined the Department this August, and are introduced below. Assistant Professor Holger Kern has also joined the Department, and will be spending the academic year at Yale University as a postdoctoral Associated Faculty member in its Institution for Social and Policy Studies. Holger received his PhD from Cornell University in 2008, after pursuing studies at the London School of Economics, Brown, Harvard and other institutions. Currently engaged at Yale in a variety of collaborative research projects, his work focuses on both comparative politics and quantitative methods. We look forward to his arrival in Columbia next August.

Amanda Licht. Amanda is proud to add USC as a third major state university to her list of academic affiliations. She completed her undergraduate degree in Political Science as a scholar in the Honors Program at the University of North Dakota (her home state) in 2005. Moving straight through to graduate education, she was awarded a Presidential Fellowship for doctorate study in Political Science at the University of Iowa, which provided her the opportunity to lead discussion sections as a teaching assistant for courses on American Foreign Policy, The Politics of Terrorism, and Introduction to International Relations. Her graduate studies featured majors in both International Relations and Political Methodology, with a minor in Comparative Politics.

Amanda’s research generally fits in the field of International Relations and Domestic Politics. Her dissertation posits a link between the impact of foreign policy on targeted leaders’ survival prospects and the willingness of those targets to offer policy concessions. She tested this link with respect to foreign aid and economic sanctions, finding that the window for effective influence through these tools is even more narrow than most have suspected. A version of the first empirical chapter appeared in February 2010’s *Journal of Conflict Resolution*. Amanda is also interested in, and working on, topics in methodology, specifically the appropriate interpretation and presentation of statistical results. Her paper on interpreting non-proportional hazards Cox models has been conditionally accepted at the journal *Political Analysis*, and it was included in the top ten most downloaded list for the SSRN Quantitative Political Methods section in 2009. Amanda is excited to be offering a Workshop for the Department’s graduate students (and interested faculty) on creating intuitive and useful graphs through simulation techniques this November.

Ellen Moule. Ellen received her BA degree in Political Science from Drew University in 2004, and her PhD from the University of California, San Diego, this past summer. Her research and teaching interests span the fields of American Politics, Public Administration, and Methodology. Ellen has taught courses on Public Policy, Policy Assessment, and the Politics of Taxing and Spending, and will in the coming Spring semester teach the core course in Financial Administration in our MPA Program for our MPA students. While a teaching assistant at UC San Diego, Ellen won lavish praise from her students, and two teaching awards.

Ellen’s research agenda focuses on the political factors that influence state
and local public finance, a particularly important and timely area of research given the current fiscal crises being suffered by state and local governments from California to South Carolina. Her recent research considers the effects of fiscal institutions on state budgets. In her doctoral dissertation, Ellen examined the effectiveness and unintended consequences of constitutional taxing and spending limits authorized by voters through direct democratic methods such as referenda. The quality of Ellen’s research is evident by the fact that she has already published two articles, one on “The Pro-Cyclical Implications of Tax and Expenditure Limits” in the National Tax Journal, the other on “For Whom the TEL Tolls: Can State Tax and Expenditure Limits Effectively Reduce Spending?” in State Politics and Policy Quarterly.

Xuhong Su. Xuhong Su received her doctoral education from the Department of Public Administration and Policy at the University of Georgia, where she specialized in public administration and science and technology policy. Prior to that, Xuhong served as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Public Administration at the National University of Defense Technology in China, where she won an excellence in teaching award while teaching courses in Public Policy Analysis, Public Organization Theory, and Introduction to Public Administration, and publishing work in Chinese outlets. She received both a bachelor's and master's degrees in Public Administration from Wuhan University in China.

Professor Su's research and teaching interests are in public administration, human resources management, public organization theory, and science and technology policy. Her current research is focused on public employees’ career trajectories. In just the past two years, Xuhong has published a research essay and articles in Public Administration Review, International Review of Public Administration, and Journal of Technology Transfer.

Events

POLIFEST 2010. Each year, in October, the Department sponsors a Political Science Career Fair, intended in part to remind all students of the importance of politics and the value of Political Science, and in part to provide to all students, especially our undergraduate majors, information about internship opportunities, graduate and law school preparation and opportunities, career opportunities, and more. Again this year, Undergraduate Director Professor Todd Shaw did most of the organizational work for POLIFEST, and again this year the events were spread out over two days, with an informal and “festive” fair held on October 20 outside Gambrell Hall, and more formal panel discussions held on the afternoon of October 26.

Pre-Election Panel. The POLI Department organized a Panel discussion for students and the public on the 2010 November elections on Tuesday evening, October 19, in Gambrell Hall Auditorium. Donald Fowler, an adjunct faculty member in the Department, and a former South Carolina State and also National Democratic Party Chair, led the Panel discussion. Panel members included Political Science Professors Andrea McAtee, Bob Oldendick, and Todd Shaw, as well as the Executive Directors of the two majors parties, Jay Parmley of the Democratic Party and Joel Sawyer of the Republican Party. The panelists discussed the South Carolina Gubernatorial and Senatorial elections, other South Carolina races, national politics, opinion trends and polling, the role of race and gender in the elections, and more. The event was also hosted by the student-run Professional Society for International Studies. Thanks are due Professor Neal Woods for helping organize this successful event.

Constitution Day. As part of the University's celebration of Constitution Day, Professor Michael Liene-
sch of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill presented a talk on "The Problem of Church and State: Why the Constitution Can't Solve It" on the evening of September 16. Each year, the POLI Department arranges the event, which it helps to sponsor along with the College and Provost's Office. Always free and open to the public, Professor Lienesch’s talk was well received by a large audience in Gambrell Hall Auditorium. Professor Lienesch is the author of numerous books, articles, and essays, most of them focused on religion and politics, particularly religious fundamentalism and political conservatism, in American history, politics and culture. His most recent book is entitled In the Beginning: Fundamentalism, the Scopes Trial, and the Making of the Antievolution Movement (2007). He is also the recipient of many teaching awards, and in 2010 was named University Professor of Distinguished Teaching at UNC.

PSRW Events. Professor Lienesch also presented a paper at the Department’s Political Science Research Workshop on “Antievolutionism and the Transformation of the Social Sciences” on September 18. This year, the PSRW—which provides opportunities for faculty, graduate students, and outside speakers to share current research ideas, projects and papers—is being organized by Professors Andrea McAtee and Lee Walker. They arranged a Fall semester program that included four outside speakers, of which Professor Lienesch was the first. On October 8, Professor Jason Roberts, also from the Political Science Department at UNC Chapel Hill, presented a paper on “The House Majority Party and the Rules Committee: Bargaining over Chamber Procedure.” He was followed on October 21 by Professor Craig Boardman of the John Glenn School of Public Affairs at The Ohio State University. Professor Boardman presented work on “Organizational Capital in Boundary-Spanning Collaborations: Internal and External Approaches to Structure and Authority in Public-Private Cooperative Research Centers.” And on November 5, Duke University Professor Sunshine Hillygus presented research on “The Dynamics of Primary Vote Choice in the 2008 Presidential Election.” POLI graduate student Michael Fix also presented a talk to the PSRW, on September 24, entitled “Does Defeasibility Depend on Distinction? Issue Salience and Judicial Decision Making in Administrative Law Courts.” And POLI graduate student Susanne Schorpp presented an October 18 talk on “The Rule of Law in Times of War: A Systematic Analysis of the U.S. Supreme Court.”

Presentation on Politics and the (New and Old) Media. Thanks to the efforts of POLI adjunct Professor Don Fowler, two additional guests visited the Department during the Fall semester. One of Don’s teaching, professional, and scholarly interests is politics and the mass media, and for his classes, and for the Department, University, and wider community, he brought to campus two distinguished guests on September 30, Jonathan Martin and Betsy Fischer. Martin is a senior political writer at Politico, Washington’s leading online newspaper and one of the best examples of the “new” media, while Fischer is the Executive Producer of NBC’s “Meet the Press,” which is the longest running television program in the world as well as one of the most distinguished television public affairs programs. The two guests presented a joint lecture to one of Don’s classes on the 30th, and later in the day provided a joint public lecture in Gambrell Hall.

Iraqi Delegation Visit. A delegation of Iraqi local public officials, including the City Manager of Baghdad, visited the Department on July 21, and heard from Professor Neal Woods an informal lecture on U. S. intergovernmental relations. The delegation, of five Iraqis and three interpreters, were in the country as part of the State Department’s Council for International Visitors program, and its trip to the Department, and to South Carolina more generally, was organized by the local Palmetto Council for International Visitors. As local officials operating in the evolving Iraq political system, the delegates were particularly interested to learn about intergovernmental practices and problems in the U.S. Professor Woods accordingly provided an overview of American federalism, accounts of current intergovernmental policies and practices, problems and controversies, and a lively Q&A at the conclusion of his remarks.

Presentation on the Politics of Consumer Credit. On September 23, the International Business School, the Walker Institute of International and Area Studies, and the POLI Department jointly sponsored a talk by Professor Gunnar Trumbull of the Harvard Business School. Entitled “Credit Access and Social Welfare: The Politics of Consumer Credit in France and America,” the presentation focused on research currently underway by Professor Trumbull that not only seeks to explain differences among nations with respect to consumer credit use and policies, but also exemplifies the ways in which economic markets must be constructed as politically legitimate.
Undergraduate News

Once again, POLI undergraduates won deserved recognition, and a great many awards and honors, at the 2010 University Awards day ceremonies. The University’s highest honor for undergraduate students is the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Awards, one of which is bestowed on a graduating woman, the other on a graduating male. The winners in 2010 were seniors Meredith Ross, a Political Science major, and Gurjeet Guram, an interdisciplinary studies major with an emphasis in Political Science. The Sullivan Awards recognize outstanding achievements, campus leadership, exemplary character, and service to the community. Meredith, who hails from Spartanburg, SC, earned as a Political Science major an outstanding academic record, served as both a President (in 2009) and Vice-President (in 2008) of student government, was a recipient of the Student Government Meritorious Award, worked in the Spanish Buddy program at a local Elementary School, and served as a leader of Omicron Delta Kappa and the Presbyterian Student Association, among many other activities. Meredith also won a USC Outstanding Senior award. Gurjeet, who hails from Columbia, was both a Rhodes Scholar and a Truman Scholar finalist, and he founded the local branch of the Roosevelt Institution, a think tank that studies policy problems, drafts solutions, and presents ideas to members of Congress (the USC branch that Gurjeet founded has received key support from the POLI Department and is indebted to the work of POLI Professor Charles Finocchiaro). Gurjeet was a National Merit Scholar, Lieber Scholar, and Palmetto Fellow, and among many other activities he was a volunteer in the intensive care unit at a local Columbia hospital and also in a rural hospital in the Dominican Republic, where he helped design and implement a program to increase childhood immunization rates.

In addition to these two distinguished undergraduates, three of USC’s Outstanding Seniors were from POLI, seven POLI students were named to Who’s Who in American Colleges and Universities, four received Outstanding Student Awards from other academic units, and three received awards from other University organizations. These students include Miriam Elizabeth Annis (College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Spanish Rising Senior), Lauren Lorraine Bailey (Student Government Brian Comer Scholarship award), Jenny Judy Bamond (University 101 Scholarship award), James Andrew Cederdahl (College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Rising Senior in Political Science), Bryan Edward Cooper (Who’s Who, USC Outstanding Senior), Eve Schafer Goodstein (Who’s Who), Lydia Dean Hackert (French Alumni Scholarship), Patrick Ehrling Holstad (Who’s Who), Angela Christine Ly (Who’s Who), Matthew Addison Moore (Excellence in Japanese Studies award), Carolina Marie Scranton (Who’s Who, USC Outstanding Senior), Elisa Sielski (Who’s Who), Alexander Szu Han Wang (M. Kershaw Walsh Award for Academic Achievement), and Jasmine Nawal Whelan (U.S. Department of State Critical Languages Scholar).

Also on USC Awards Day, the Department singles out particularly deserving POLI students for four awards, and it announces the winners of the annual Philo S. Bennett Medal Award Competition. The four awards are for Outstanding Juniors and Seniors in Political Science and in International Studies. The Bennett Award Competition, open to POLI majors, requires students to compose an essay on “The Principles of Free Government,” essays which are then judged by the Department’s Undergraduate Committee members. The winner receives a $3,000 scholarship, and runner-ups win $1,000 scholarships. Pictured below are some of the award and scholarship winners. On the far left is Kellie Michelle Sharpe, named the Outstanding International Studies Senior, and on her left is James Andrew Cederdahl, who was named the Outstanding Political Science Junior. To his left is Christina Marie Shepard, one of the two Bennett Medal runner-ups, and to her left is the winner of the Bennett Medal competition, Hillary Nicole Vedvig. At the far right is Alexandra Mariel Simon, the second of the two Bennett Medal runner-ups. Not pictured are Alyssa Grace Weeks, who was named the Outstanding International Studies Junior, and Emma Mean Smiley, the Outstanding Political Science Senior.

Martha Susan Morris is an honors student majoring in Political Science and Economics from Hampstead,
North Carolina who has come up with a very creative and challenging idea for her senior thesis. She is constructing both an organization and a website called The Political Palmetto. As an organization, The Political Palmetto hopes to enlist students from colleges and universities across the state to share their research and opinions on state and national politics and policy by posting them on the website she has constructed, www.thepoliticalpalmetto.com. The hope is that the project becomes something permanent, and that it will serve to educate SC students and citizens. The POLI Department has provided to Susan physical space in Gambrell Hall, space in which the political media forum and outlet can be developed and managed.

Junior Political Science major Morgan Henley, pictured below, is one of five USC Study Abroad students who will be serving as “overseas correspondents” for the academic year. The students/correspondents are documenting their study abroad experiences through student blogs located on the Study Abroad Office website (http://www.sa.sc.edu/sa/osc.htm). Morgan, who hails from Jacksonville Florida, will be blogging about her experiences in Prague, Czech Republic. She expects while attending school there to learn a good deal about East European politics and culture, and to develop her Czech language skills. Students and faculty are invited to comment or post questions on Morgan’s blog.

Also pictured below is POLI senior Ha-keem Jefferson, standing alongside POLI Undergraduate Director Professor Todd Shaw. Hakeem, who is also a Capstone Scholar and African-American Studies student, spent part of the summer at Duke University as a participant in the Ralph Bunche Summer Institute. The Institute is a five week academically intensive summer program designed to simulate the graduate school experience and expand academic opportunities for minority students. It is funded by the National Science Foundation. Hakeem was one of ten Bunche Scholars to present an undergraduate research poster presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association in Washington, DC in early September. Professor Shaw is one of Hakeem’s mentors.

On October 16, the USC Mock Trial Team won the Owl Classic Mock Trial Tournament at Kennesaw State University in Georgia. In addition to winning the team championship, a number of the students on the team won individual hon-
ors, including freshman Political Science major Devon Thurman as “best attorney.” The twenty five member team also includes Political Science majors David Beamer, Liane Dublinski, and Chanal McCain, and Political Science minor Mira Radieva. The team won under the leadership of long-time coach and POLI Professor Donald Songer.

Department Forms New Undergraduate Advisory Committee

The POLI faculty recently created an Undergraduate Advisory Committee, chaired by the Undergraduate Director but comprised otherwise of twelve POLI undergraduate students recommend by the faculty and appointed by the Chair in consultation with the Undergraduate Director. The main goal of the Committee is to give undergraduate majors in Political Science and International Studies a formal means to provide insight, feedback and advice about the undergraduate experience, including curriculum and instruction, programming, scholarship and internship opportunities, career/academic planning, and advisement. In addition, the Committee is expected to help our students cultivate their leadership skills, our faculty to tap student sentiment and better understand student interests, and our Undergraduate Director to draw on a pool of motivated students who, along with other student volunteers, can help organize and implement the annual POLIFEST program and other departmental events and activities.

The student composition of the new Committee is intended to reflect the diversity of POLI students by major (PS or IS), class rank, gender, ethnicity/race, and residence (in-state, out-state). The current membership includes: seniors Molly Butters and Hakeem Jefferson; juniors Molly Doggett, Warren Durrett, Kytaall Malik and Robby Seltzer; sophomores Tina Abbasi, Sam Kent and Kathryn Miles; and three other students yet to be named, two of whom will be freshmen.

The inspiration for the new Committee came primarily from our very active and committed Undergraduate Director, Professor Todd Shaw, and our equally active and committed Undergraduate Coordinator, Ms. Janis Leaphart. Todd is the Chair of the Committee, and Janis is an ex-officio member, along with the Department Chair. The Committee is expected to meet twice each semester. Its first meeting was held on October 11, at which the group discussed ways of enhancing communication flows from the Department to students, identified future agenda items, and selected as the student Co-Chair of the Committee Warren Durrett and as its note taker Kathryn Miles. The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for November 15.
Professor Randazzo Tenured and Promoted

The Department is pleased to announce that Professor Kirk Randazzo has been awarded tenure and promotion to Associate Professor. Kirk joined the Department in 2008, after teaching for five years at the University of Kentucky. He earned his doctoral degree (in 2003) from Michigan State University.

Kirk is a leading analyst of the voting behavior of U.S. federal judges across a variety of strategic and legal contexts, and of the role and development of the rule of law, and the establishment of judicial independence, in comparative and cross-national contexts. He is a key member of the Department’s highly ranked program in Public Law and Judicial Politics, a popular and effective undergraduate teacher, and a popular instructor and mentor to many of our graduate students. Kirk has published numerous articles in nationally and internationally recognized journals and law reviews, and has won numerous grants from several prestigious institutions, including the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Department of State. His book, Defenders of Liberty or Champions of Security? Federal Courts, the Hierarchy of Justice, and U.S. Foreign Policy (2010 SUNY Press), examines the competing influences of liberty and security on federal judges as they resolve cases involving civil liberties challenges to foreign affairs policies.

Kirk has recently made presentations at Augusta State University, the Palmetto Forum, the Kentucky College of Law, SUNY Binghamton, and before a select conference of federal judges, lawyers, and academics sponsored by Southern Illinois University – Carbondale School of Law. He has in the past also presented research in Australia, Italy, and Romania, taught civil liberties and international human rights law at the University of Asmara in Eritrea, and given the keynote address at the first-ever conference on Democracy and Human Rights sponsored by the American Embassy in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. Currently, Kirk is engaged in a variety of professional activities, in addition to his busy research and teaching agenda. He is the Director of the USC Judicial Research Initiative, and maintains an electronic archive of several highly used databases. He is a member of the editorial board for the Justice System Journal and serves on the Executive Committee for the Law & Courts section of the American Political Science Association. He is also a highly sought leadership and motivational speaker and has delivered presentations on basic leadership development, strategic planning, and conflict resolution for organizations and institutions such as the Professional Fraternity Association, Alpha Kappa Psi, Kappa Kappa Psi, the Oklahoma State University Fraternity and Sorority Council, and the Professional Fraternity Executives Association.

Graduate Student News

Congratulations are in order for our May and August doctoral program graduates. In May, two of our doctoral students received their Ph.D. degree: Aleksandra Chauhan and Yi-hung (Eric) Chio. Aleksandra’s dissertation focused on the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and was written under the direction of Emeritus Distinguished Professor Donald Puchala and also Professor Dan Sabia. Eric’s dissertation, written under the direction of Distinguished Professor Harvey Starr, examined the relationship between foreign direct investment and conflict. In August, three more students earned Ph.D.s: Athena King, Bryan Parsons, and Raul Sanchez Urribarri. Athena’s dissertation examined the role of policy entrepreneurs in U.S. racial and ethnic politics, Bryan’s examined social networks and the emotional impact
of political discussion, and Raul’s provided a comparative analysis of judicial behavior focused on the Venezuelan Supreme Court. Athena worked under the guidance of Professor Todd Shaw, Bryan under the direction of Professor David Darmofal, and Raul under Distinguished Professor Don Songer.

In addition to our doctoral program graduates, POLI graduated three students in the Master of International Studies Program: Garrett S. DeWitt in May, and Cassandra Sviridovsky and Seung-Mo Shon in August. And Alan Tauber received his MA in Political Science in May. Congratulations are due these students as well.

Our graduate students succeed in the main because of their own creativity, intelligence, and hard work, but the POLI faculty are instrumental in nurturing those virtues. Examples are provided not only by those who direct dissertations and master’s theses, but also by recent efforts by our new Graduate Director, Professor David Darmofal, and our new Placement Director, Professor Kirk Randazzo. With the help of other POLI faculty, they have been organizing this semester a number of Workshops for our graduate students. Included have been Workshops on the Job Market, on opportunities in the U.S. Foreign Service, on Dissertation Writing, on opportunities for a Summer Institute at Berkeley, and even on “Simulation Procedures for the Effective Representation of Statistical Results.” These and other Workshops, past and present, together with outstanding graduate seminars, support for travel to professional conferences, research and teaching opportunities, and many other kinds of guidance and support, reflect the deep commitment of the POLI faculty to graduate student success. That commitment, in turn, is reflected in graduation rates and placement successes, and in many other activities undertaken by our graduate students. Here are a few recent examples:

Doctoral candidate Joe Chen presented a paper on “Holding Partnership Accountable: An Analysis on the Public-Private Partnerships between the UN and For-Profit Corporations,” at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting in Chicago in April. He has in addition presented four other papers, all in the month of October. These were: “Play to Learn: Using UN Simulation as an Effective Teaching Tool in International Relations,” at USC’s “Octoberfest: A Celebration of Teaching” here in Columbia; “Affordability vs. Proximity: The Impact of International Public-Private Partnerships on Access to Clean Water in West Africa,” and “Responsibility to Protect: Why Is It So Easy to Accept but So Hard to Practice?” both at the International Studies Association-South Annual Conference in St. Petersburg, Florida; and “Imagined Community: Evolving Pictures of the Chinese Community across the Taiwan Strait,” at the American Association for Chinese Studies Annual Conference at Wake Forest University.

Nor is that all. Joe was one of the first of two winners of a new USC International Student Services Award this past April, called the “Global Gamecock Award,” created to recognize students at USC who make important contributions to the international communities on campus. In addition, Joe received from the Walker Institute of International and Area Studies a travel award to help fund his dissertation field research this summer in Ghana, Africa.

Michael Fix, also in the doctoral program, has also been quite busy. With Professor Randazzo and Richard Waterman, Mike’s co-authored article on “State Supreme Courts and the Effects of Statutory Constraint” will be appearing soon in Political Research Quarterly. And Mike recently presented a paper on “Are We Testing What We Think We’re Testing? A Theoretical Evaluation of Methods for Testing Hypotheses About Temporal Changepoints,” at the Saint Louis Area Methods Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri.

Another student in the doctoral program, Will Jennings, will be seeking to graduate in May of 2011, after spending a number of years as a Faculty Associate at the Howard Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy and a Lecturer in the Political Science Department at the University of Tennessee. He has been teaching classes there on African, South Asian, and Global South Politics, as well as courses on International Relations and Popular Culture and American Politics. In the Fall of 2009, Will was selected as a UT “Professor of the Semester” and previously as a Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honor Society Teacher of the Year in 2008. Will spent calendar year 2002 in Southern Africa doing research on economic integration in the Southern African Development Community, work that took him to South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Mozambique, and Tanzania.

Doctoral candidate Mandy Hsiaochuan Liao presented a paper at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago in April on “Dissatisfaction and War in All Relevant Dyads.” Also, Mandy was awarded by the Department the Thurmond/Atwater Fellowship in International Relations for this academic year.

Mekell T. Mikell, who recently received her Ph.D. from POLI, and


Doctoral candidate Susanne Schorpp was awarded a Donald E. Stokes Dissertation Research Fellowship Award from the British Politics Group for travel to Great Britain to undertake interviews with legal elites (Susanne spent one week in September interviewing barristers from the Queen’s Council and the Head of Communications of the UK Supreme Court). She also received from the USC Graduate School a $2500 Rhude M. Patterson Fellowship award to help with her dissertation research. Together with Raul Sanchez Urribarri and Professors Randazzo and Songer, Suzanne has learned that their article on “Explaining Changes to Rights Litigation: Testing a Multivariate Model in a Comparative Framework,” has been accepted for publication in the Journal of Politics. She has also presented a conference paper and made two poster presentations recently. The paper, co-authored with Professor Donald Songer and fellow graduate student Rebecca Reid, was on “War and Gender: Gendered Differences in Making Tradeoffs Between Civil Liberties and National Security in the U.S. Courts of Appeals, 1950-2007,” and was presented at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago in April. One of the posters, entitled “The Impact of War on the Federal Courts of Appeals: Variations on Modeling time and Time-Varying Relationships,” was presented at the Annual Summer Meeting of the Society for Political Methodology in Iowa City in July; the other, on “The Rule of Law in Times of War: The Effect of War on Canadian and U.S. Supreme Court Decision Making,” was presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association in Washington, DC in September.

Charles Chong-Han Wu presented a paper on “A Study of Conflict Escalation Between Democratic and Non-Democratic Dyads: How Does China Solve Military Disputes with Democratic Neighbors?,” at the Annual Meeting of the American Association for China Studies in Winston-Salem on October 16. Charles also attended over the summer a Social Network Analysis Workshop at the University of Kentucky, and recently received a 2010 Study Abroad Research Fellowship from the Ministry of Education, Republic of China (Taiwan).

Alumni News

Dr. Janine A. Davidson, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Plans, is both a 2005 graduate of our doctoral Program and a 2010 recipient of our College’s “Distinguished Alumnus Award.” Her book, Lifting the Fog of Peace, has recently been published by the University of Michigan Press. The book focuses on how the U.S. military has adapted itself to succeed in the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Another graduate of our doctoral Program, Dr. Steven Dillingham, has assumed a new leadership position in the U.S. Department of Transportation. Steve has been the Director of the Bureau of Transportation Statistics in the U.S. Department of Transportation since 2007, but he has now taken over as the Director of the Transportation Safety Institute in Oklahoma City. Steve received his Ph.D. from POLI in 1987. He has been an active supporter of the Department, and a long-time member of its Partnership Board.
Recently, while in Washington attending a meeting of a coalition of women’s organizations and groups, Professor Laura Woliver listened intently to a presentation by the Special Assistant to the President of the NAACP. The presenter was Ms. Jotaka Eaddy, who received her BA from POLI in 2001.

International Studies Ph.D. (2004) Jih-Un Kim recently secured tenure, and promotion to Associate Professor, at Webster University in St. Louis, where he teaches courses in Comparative Politics and International Relations. Jih-Un is currently doing research on the problem of water insecurity in China, as well as on Sino-Korea relations in the context of nationalism, democratization and soft power.

Another POLI graduate, Craig Swaisgood, received his Political Science B.A. degree in 2005. Craig had until recently been working on the Hill on federal workforce policy, but this summer he took a on a new position as a Program Analyst at the Office of the City Administrator in the Executive Office of the Mayor of Washington, DC. The focus of his work will be on health and human service agencies in the big city. Craig reports that his “poli sci degree has served me quite well.”

Hanneke Van Dyke, who earned her BA in POLI in 2007, recently finished a three year stint with the Peace Corps in Morocco. Since then, she has decided to postpone for a year plans to attend graduate school in order to take up a position teaching in a remote island in the Marshall Islands. She has, accordingly, been stationed on the Marshall atoll called Utrok—all one square mile of it—teaching over 100 students in eight grades. She sends to all a “Yokwe,” a word meaning “you are a rainbow” in Marshallese, but widely used as a common greeting.

Rule of Law Collaborative Wins Army Contract

The Rule of Law Collaborative at USC is an interdisciplinary program for promoting justice and rule of law, particularly in regions and nations of political conflict. Led by POLI Professor Gordon Smith, and coordinated by the Walker Institute of International and Area Studies which Gordon directs, the Collaborative has been awarded a contract from the Army’s Office of the Judge Advocate General. The contract is for $500,000 in the first year, and may be extended over a three-year period for a total of $1.5 million. U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham, who is also a JAG officer in the USAF Reserves, was instrumental in launching the Collaborative in 2009.

The contract is intended to support efforts by the University to foster greater cooperation and coordination among U.S. government officials from the departments of Defense, State and Justice, as well as U.S. Agency for International Development, non-governmental organizations, and academic specialists, in designing and delivering more effective rule-of-law programs. The effort must be collaborative and interdisciplinary, Gordon points out, in part because “The development of rule of law in stabilizing war-torn regions [and nations]…requires a comprehensive, holistic approach that takes into account the history, culture, traditions, and dynamics of nations.” In addition to the leadership and expertise provided by Professor Smith, other members of the POLI faculty will be among those participating in some of the envisioned conferences, workshops, and related activities.

Faculty News and Recent Publications

When the University’s current Provost, Dr. Michael Amiridis, assumed his position about one year ago, he organized a Social Sciences Research Grant competition in order to help facilitate and support the research efforts of the many social scientists on the Columbia and branch campuses. The results, announced in mid-April, confirmed our view that POLI faculty are among the most promising and productive at USC. Of the 62 proposals considered, only 12 were awarded, and fully 25% of those were awarded to POLI faculty! Professors Anu Chakravarty, Kirk Randazzo, and Don Songer all won substantial research awards in this competition. Congratulations are due to them, and also to many other POLI faculty members for recent accomplishments and activities, awards and honors. A few of these are
briefly described below.

**David Darmofal** has been selected as the Program Co-Chair for the 2012 Midwest Political Science Association meeting to be held in Chicago. David has in the past taken programmatic roles in this Association, which typically hosts the largest of the regional Political Science conferences in the USA. David will be working with Co-Chair Dr. Wendy Martinek of Binghampton University.

We already miss **Matt Fuhrmann**, who is spending the academic year at the Council on Foreign Relations in Washington, D.C. as a Nuclear Security Fellow. Recognized for his expertise on all issues related to nuclear proliferation, Matt spent several days in July on a fact-finding trip to Japanese nuclear facilities. The trip was sponsored by the Federation of Electric Power Companies of Japan, and included a visit to Japan’s commercial nuclear fuel production facility in Rakkasho-mura. Matt also met with government officials in Tokyo and visited the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum. The trip aided Matt’s research on nuclear weapons proliferation and nuclear energy development, and the fieldwork he concluded will inform a chapter in his book dealing with Japanese nuclear decision-making.


**Kirk Randazzo** has learned that two articles he recently co-authored with POLI graduate students and faculty are soon to be published. Forthcoming in the *Journal of Politics* is an article on “Explaining Changes to Rights Litigation: Testing a Multivariate Model in a Comparative Framework,” which Kirk co-authored with POLI Professor Don Songer and POLI graduate students Raul Sanchez Urribarria and Suzanne Schorpp. And with Professor Doug Gibler from the University of Alabama, Kirk’s article on “Testing the Effects of Independent Judiciaries on the Likelihood of Democratic Backsliding” has been accepted for publication in the *American Journal of Political Science*.

**Jerel Rosati** served as a 2010 Summer Visiting Scholar at the University of San Andreas in Argentina at the request of the Fulbright Commission of Argentina. Jerel has also published a chapter on “Political Psychology, Cognition and Foreign Policy Analysis” in *Compendium of International Studies*, ed. Bob Denmark (ISA and Blackwell, 2010). He also has a forthcoming chapter, co-authored with MAIS student Scott Dewitt, on “The State Department at Home and Abroad” for the *Handbook of American Foreign Policy*, eds. Steven W. Hook and Christopher M. Jones (Routledge).

**Dan Sabia**’s article, “Defending Immanent Critique,” appears in the October issue of *Political Theory* 38: 684-711. Dan also produced in May two “Carolina Minutes” for the state’s educational radio station (SC ETV), one on “Democratic Socialism,” the other on “Capitalism.”

As mentioned above, Professor **Don Songer** is a co-author with Kirk Randazzo and graduate students Raul Sanchez Urribarria and Suzanne Schorpp of an article to be published in the *Journal of Politics* on “Explaining Changes to Rights Litigation: Testing a Multivariate Model in a Comparative Framework.” Don has also co-authored two other recently published, articles. With former graduate student (and now Professor) Susan Johnson (of UNC Greensboro), Don has published an article on “Judge Gender and the Voting Behavior of Justices on Two North American Supreme Courts,” in *Justice System Journal* 30: 265-279. And with Susan Johnson and current POLI graduate student Nadia Jilani, Don has published “Gender, Consciousness Raising, and Decision Making on the Supreme Court of Canada” in *Judicature* 94: 1-17. Don has also been busy as a co-author with a number of current and former students on three recent conference papers. With John Smer (a former POLI Ph.D. now a Professor at UNC Charlotte), Professor Rob Christensen (also at Charlotte), and POLI doctoral students Nick Mostardo and Margarita Pate, Don presented at paper at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association in April on “Status Characteristics and Opinion Assignments on the U.S. Courts of Appeals.” A paper on “War and Gender: Gendered Differences in Making Tradeoffs Between Civil Liberties and National Security in the U.S. Courts of Appeals,” was presented at the same meeting, and this paper was co-authored by Don with current POLI graduate students Suzanne Schorpp and Rebecca Reid. And with yet another POLI doctoral student, Jessica Link, Don presented a paper on “Debunking the Myths Surrounding the Attitudinal Model of Supreme Court Decision Making” at the Annual Meeting of the American Political
Don Songer has a number of other important accomplishments, honors and activities to report. Don has won the 2010 Michael Hill Award for Outstanding Honors College Teaching, an award bestowed on exceptional teachers by seniors in the Honors College. As the award recipient, Don served for the Honors College as their Featured Speaker at the College Revocation ceremony in May and at the Freshman Colloquium in August. And while busy teaching (and publishing), Don has been equally busy on the grants front. In addition to winning the research grant in the USC Provost Grant Program competition mentioned above, Don has secured a Magellan Grant for undergraduate research with POLI student Miroslava Radieva to work on “Gender and Different Voice in the Opinions of the Intermediate Appellate Courts of the U.S., Canada, and England.” He also has two very large, collaborative, grant proposals pending with the National Science Foundation. One of these, focused on “Decision Making on the U.S. District Courts: Building a Multi-User Database,” involves colleagues at Michigan State, Texas Law School and Georgia State, as well as POLI Professor Kirk Randazzo, as co-principals. The second collaborative NSF proposal, on “Gender, Party and Collegiality: Judicial Decision Making in the Intermediate Appellate Courts of Australia, Canada, England and the U.S.,” has as co-principals with Don former students Susan Johnson (at UNC Greensboro) and John Szmer (at UNC Charlotte). Don’s activities include as well service as Chair of a Panel on “Explaining Judicial Power” at the Midwest Political Science Association meeting in April, and chief organizer of a Novice Speech Tournament at USC on September 18. The Tournament was sponsored by the USC intercollegiate mock trial team, which Don has for many years coached. It brought to campus approximately 250 high school students from North and South Carolina. And speaking of the mock trial team, it won the Owl Classic Mock Trial Tournament championship, held on October 16 at Kennesaw State University in Georgia as reported in the Undergraduate News section. Finally, during the summer, Don somehow found time to play the role of the butler, Drake, in the Columbia Town Theater production of Annie.

Harvey Starr, with former POLI colleague Zaryab Igbal, has received a contract from Stanford University Press for their book on State Failure in the Modern World. And with USC colleague Professor Stan Dubinsky, Harvey has received a grant from the National Science Foundation to hold a Conference/Workshop at USC in the Fall of 2011 on methods of analyzing the conflict in the Middle East. The three day conference on “New Horizons in Conflict System Analysis: Applications to the Middle East—a Cross-Disciplinary Conference at the University of South Carolina,” will bring together conflict scholars, primarily from Political Science, applying a range of advanced analytic and data gathering techniques to address the domain of the contemporary Middle East conflict system. Analytical approaches from several other disciplines will also be represented.

POLI Professor and USC Green Quad Faculty Principal David Whiteman has published “The Green Quad as a Catalyst for Change: Spreading Green Values across the University and Community,” in Metropolitan Universities: An International Forum (July), 20:4.

Laura Woliver was selected as a summer Visiting Scholar at the American Political Science Association’s Centennial Center for Political Science and Public Affairs. Laura’s stay there was supported in part by the APSA Women and Politics Fund. Laura also co-authored, with former POLI Ph.D. graduate Mekell T. Mikell and current POLI doctoral student Swapna Pathak, an article on “Women’s Leadership in the Development of Women and Gender Studies,” in Karen O’Connor, ed., Gender and Women’s Leadership: A Reference Handbook (Sage Publications, 2010), pp. 616-623. And she presented at the September American Political Science Association Annual Meeting a paper on “Gender, Labor and Progressive Coalitions Working the Vote: Grass Roots Mobilizations for Registration and Early Voting in the 2008 Election,” co-authored with POLI doctoral student Annie Boiter-Jolley.
In Memoriam: Professor Betty Glad

The Department lost a valued colleague and dear friend this past August, with the passing of Distinguished Professor Emerita Betty Glad. Betty joined the Department in 1989, after teaching for many years in the Department of Political Science at the University of Illinois. She received her PhD from the University of Chicago in 1962, and built a distinguished and pioneering career as a scholar of American politics and foreign policy. She was an expert on the American Presidency, U.S. foreign policy, and political psychology, the author of four books and the editor or co-editor of many more, as well as the author of dozens of articles, book chapters and commentary. Her first book, on Charles Evans Hughes, was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize; her most recent book, published in 2009, was on Jimmy Carter and his foreign policy advisors.

Betty was one of the first women to earn a PhD in Political Science and then teach at a PhD granting institution. She served as the first woman chair of the Political Science Department at Illinois, and was for many years a leader and role model for women in the profession; she was one of the first women in Political Science to win national and international stature. She won the Frank D. Goodnow Award from the American Political Science Association for a lifetime of contributions and service to the profession, and the Harold Lasswell Award from the International Society for Political Psychology for a lifetime of contribution to political psychology. Among many other accomplishments and honors and distinctions, 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. In 2009, she received a distinguished alumna award from the University of Utah.

Betty was a dedicated teacher, and an exemplary mentor to untold numbers of graduate students. A memorial service was held on August 8 at the Rutledge College Chapel on the horseshoe, where some of her many friends, colleagues, and former students gathered to remember and celebrate her life and remarkable career.

Stay In Touch

If you know of anyone who is an alumnus of the Department, or who simply wants to be informed of what is going on in the Department, please let us know so that we can add their name to our Newsletter distribution list. Of course, we are especially interested in hearing news from alumni. Send your news or suggestions to: Professor Dan Sabia, Chair, Department of Political Science, Gambrell Hall, University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C. 29208.