

Spring 2013

Political Science Spring 2013

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Department of Political Science

Spring 2013

POLI Newsletter

Volume 7, No. 2

Greetings from the Chair

Yet another academic year is coming to a close. It has been eventful. During the Fall semester, we celebrated the Department's 75th Anniversary, and brought to campus the largest professional conference of political theorists in the Political Science discipline; both of these events were described in the last issue of the *Newsletter*. In the current, Spring, semester, the Department founded two inaugural conferences, one organized by our graduate students, the other by some of our faculty. Described in more detail inside this issue of the *Newsletter*, the graduate students organized and hosted a professional Research Conference that involved over 60 faculty and students in a one-day event that included paper presentations by graduate students from several other universities as well as from our own, and provided doctoral program recruits, as well as academics throughout the discipline, with yet another reason to acknowledge the fine doctoral program and faculty this Department has on offer. The other conference, organized by Professors David Darmofal, Amanda Licht and Holger Kern, and dubbed the Southeast Methods Meeting, was a highly successful regional methods meeting intended to bring together quantitative methods scholars to discuss their research while showcasing the strengths of the POLI faculty in the Political Methods field. Both conferences were hugely successful, and both will become annual events, the former with primarily departmental financial sup-

port, the latter with primarily College financial support (thanks to Dean Mary Anne Fitzpatrick).

The Department this academic year also welcomed six new faculty members, introduced in the last issue of the *Newsletter*, and we succeeded in hiring during the Fall and Spring semesters four more new faculty members, all of whom will be joining us in August. **Tobias Heinrich** will receive his Ph.D. from Rice University this May, where he has been studying international relations, foreign policy, and political methodology. His dissertation employs models of political economy to understand broad patterns of foreign aid flows as well as their consequences on recipient countries' policy choices. Toby has three forthcoming articles, one each in the *Journal of Politics*, *Social Networks* and *International Interactions*.

Also working in the field of International Relations is Dr. **Timothy Peterson**, who will be joining us from his current position as an Assistant Professor at Oklahoma State University. Tim's research has examined the connections between international economic ties and political relationships, the determinants of trade policy and the influence of human rights norms on interstate relationships, and most recently how the composition of trade influences patterns of militarized conflict, and when (or if) economic sanctions send signals of sanctioning states' resolve to third parties. Tim is widely published, having placed articles

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Internship Director

in such journals as *International Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, and *British Journal of Political Science*.

The other two newly hired faculty work in the fields of Public Administration, Public Policy, and American Politics. Dr. **Susan Miller** received her Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Missouri in 2010. Her research bridges the fields of Public Administration and American Politics, focusing on bureaucratic and legislative institutions, particularly in the U.S. states. She examines the implications of institutional features for public policy formulation and implementation, and has recently presented and published several papers exploring the bureaucratic and political consequences of electing (as opposed to appointing) administrative officials. Her research has appeared in many journals, including the *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *Publius: The Journal of Federalism*, and *American Politics Research*. Dr. **Christopher Witko** will also be joining the faculty in August, as a tenured Associate Professor. Chris received his Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill in 2003, served as an Assistant Professor at California State University, Sacramento from 2003-07, and then moved to Saint Louis University where he earned tenure and Associate status in 2010. His research interests and publication record extend across the fields of public policy, public administration and American, especially state, politics. He has published numerous articles in leading journals in these areas, and we are delighted to announce that he will be assuming the position of Director of the Department's Masters of Public Administration Program when he arrives in August.

As new faculty members enter the Department, some current members depart. Professor **Jerel Rosati**, who joined the Department in 1982, retired on January 1st of this year. Jerel played for many years a major role in the Department, perhaps especially so as one of our most popular and effective undergraduate and graduate teachers and one of our most successful mentors. He served, in fact, as the Director of 19 Ph.D. dissertations, 27 Master's Theses, and half a dozen Honors Theses, and served as a Reader on scores more in each of these categories. His research record includes a text on *The Politics of U.S. Foreign Policy*, co-authored with Tom Scott and now in its fifth edition, which has been widely hailed and widely used in no less than 30 countries around the world. He is also the author of *The Carter Administration's Quest for Global Community*, the Editor or Co-Editor of three other books, and author or co-author of over fifty articles and book chapters. His success as a scholar and teacher was, over his long career, both recognized and nourished by his stints as a Visiting Scholar at Universities in Somalia, China, Argentina and Armenia, and by his service as a Fulbright Senior Specialist in Argentina and Colombia.

I, too, am retiring, effective July 1. I shall miss the Department, its students and my colleagues, and also the staff who have ably carried me through seven years of service as department chair. I am indebted as well to many individual faculty members (too many to name here) who also helped carry the burden of the many administrative obligations, and the many research, teaching and service commitments, that characterize and confront (and sometimes confound!) a department. Indeed, I am indebted to all of my colleagues for putting up with me for so long. I have been fortunate to serve them.

Undergraduate News

Lauren Luxenburg, a Political Science major and a student in Professor Todd Shaw's "African American Political Thought" course, was responsible for fostering a stimulating conversation between the students in that class and Touré. Touré (born Touré Neblett) is an American novelist, essayist, music journalist, cultural critic, and television personality based in New York City. He is the host of Fuse's *Hiphop Shop* and *On the Record*, and is co-host of *The Cycle* on MSNBC. He is also the author of *Who's Afraid of Post-Blackness: What It Means to Be Black Now*, an assigned text in Shaw's class. Lauren tweeted a comment to Touré, to which he responded by inviting a dialogue between himself and the class. This led to a Skype interchange between the class and Touré on March 4.

The **University Mock Trial Team** was again this academic year sponsored (in part) by the POLI Department. During the year, the Team expanded its mission from one focused solely on coaching members of competitive squads to compete in tournaments to one aimed at enabling undergraduate students to refine the skills of advocacy imperative for personal and

professional development. In light of this, the Mock Trial Team experienced a year of internal growth: embracing its new status as a student-run organization, recruiting a diverse group of students, and promoting education in trial advocacy. Led by President **Devon Thurman**, Vice President **Dennis Kerwin**, Treasurer **Ashley Lombardo**, and Secretary **Caroline Worthy**, the Team welcomed over twenty new members from a variety of backgrounds, majors, and experience levels. In addition to holding weekly general meetings, the Mock Trial Team hosted a series of informative workshops on the discovery process, trial procedure, and the Federal Rules of Evidence. This initiative extended beyond the realm of intercollegiate mock trial and fostered a deeper understanding of the judicial system in the United States. Moreover, with critical help from the Team, Devon Thurman implemented her high school outreach program “Future Trial Lawyers of America: Empowering Youth Through Advocacy Education.” This project established a mentoring system, which gave high school students access to college mock trial competitors, and paved the way for reciprocal learning and lasting relationships.



Members of the Mock Trial Team, with President Devon Thurman holding trophy

In addition to these educational endeavors, the Mock Trial Team (many of its members pictured above) remained committed to its original mission of maintaining professionalism and competitiveness in Invitational and National Qualifying tournaments. Among its impressive performances at a host of highly competitive tournaments this year, the Mock Trial Team at the University of South Carolina secured the title of Tournament Champions at Emory University’s First Annual Peach State Classic, winning first place with a record of eight wins and zero losses. Furthermore, individual competitors from USC accrued more than ten Outstanding Attorney and Outstanding Witness Awards over the course of the season. Hardly exhausted from their educational, service, and competitive endeavors and successes, the team members are looking forward to next academic year.

POLI Grad Students and POLI Faculty Found Inaugural Conferences

On Saturday, February 23, the Department’s graduate students held what is expected to become an annual event: the first ever **USC Political Science Graduate Student Organization Research Conference**. Supported by Department funds, and held at the Inn at USC, this very successful event was organized entirely by the students. The Conference Program Chair was the past POLI Graduate Student Organization President, **Alexandra Reckendorf**, and she was helped by the current officers of the GSO, including current President **Clay Fuller**, and officers **Ali Masood**, **Judit Trunkos**, **Paige Price**, **T J Kimel**, and **Charles Crabtree**. Graduate students from seven institutions, including international institutions in Germany and Georgia, joined twenty POLI graduate students in delivering research papers at well-attended and lively panels; other POLI graduate students, together with

some POLI faculty, served on the panels as chairs and/or discussants. A total of eight panels were held throughout the day, on “Judicial Politics,” “Political Theory,” “Elites and Institutions,” “American Politics,” “Trade and Conflict,” “Public Administration,” “International Organizations,” and “Comparative Politics.” More than 60 students and faculty attended the event, including some prospective incoming USC doctoral students who had been invited to the event.

The Conference included an early breakfast as well as a luncheon, and concluded with a Happy Hour. The luncheon featured a Keynote Address by Dr. **Donald Green** of Columbia University, on “The Credibility Revolution in Political Science.” Dr. Green is a well-known, distinguished professor and scholar, the author of four books

and over one hundred articles on a variety of topics including voting behavior, partisanship, campaign finance, hate crime, and research methods (in particular experimental research). The importance and influence of experimental research in the discipline of Political Science was the subject of Dr. Green's talk.

The Conference included as well two Best Paper competitions, one for graduate students from non-USC institutions, the other for USC students. The Best Paper Award for a non-USC student was presented to **Weibke Lamer** from Old Dominion University, for her paper on "The Right on Which All Other Rights Depend? Press Freedom in the International Human Rights Framework." The Best Paper competition for USC students resulted in a tie, and so an award was made to **Ali Masood** for his paper on "The Influence of Justices on Lower Court Responses to Supreme Court Precedent," and to **Paige Price** for her paper on "Nuclear Proliferation, Non-democracies, and Political Survival: An Institutional Perspective."

About two weeks earlier, on Friday, February 8, the Department hosted the **Inaugural Southeast Methods Meeting**, a regional methods meeting intended to bring together quantitative methods scholars to discuss their research and foster collaboration, while showcasing the strengths of the POLI faculty in the Political Methods field. The event was developed and organized by Professors **David Darmofal**, **Holger Kern**, and **Amanda Licht**, and it was supported by the College—which, thanks to Dean Fitzpatrick, has committed to funding this

first-ever-in-the-Southeast meeting on an annual basis.

The Meeting was held at the Inn at USC, and included both a breakfast and luncheon. Three papers were presented by distinguished guests, and each presentation included a formal response/discussant by three POLI faculty. Dr. **Jeff Gill**, of Washington University in St. Louis, presented a paper on "Revealing Latent Clusters from Dirichlet Process Mixtures Models Using Product Partitions," with response by POLI Professor Dr. **Tima Moldogaziev**. The second presenter was Dr. **Drew Linzer** of Emory University, who described work on "Dynamic Bayesian Forecasting of Presidential Elections in the States," with response from POLI Professor Dr. **Lee Walker**. The final paper, on "Community Structures: Networks and Voter Mobilization," was presented by Dr. **Betsy Sinclair** of the University of Chicago, and was discussed by POLI Professor Dr. **Kelan Lu**.

The Meeting provoked engaging discussions, and left our guests with very positive impressions of our University and Department. The quality of the work presented was perhaps best reflected by the paper delivered by Linzer. Soon to be published in the *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, the paper dealt with Linzer's work on dynamic Bayesian forecasting of presidential elections, work which has gained him considerable attention in the popular press after he perfectly predicted the electoral college votes for Obama and Romney months before the November election.

Other Events

In addition to the Graduate Student Conference and the Inaugural Southeastern Methods Meeting, the Department has organized and sponsored several other events during the Spring semester. For example, together with the Walker Institute of International and Area Studies, the Department sponsored a discussion on "U.S.-Libyan Relations after the Libyan Civil War" on February 12. The discussion featured MAIS graduate student **Alex Barnes** and adjunct instructor Dr. **Josef Olmert**, and was intended as the first of future

"briefings" by MAIS students on contemporary international issues, providing for the featured student and his/her peers an opportunity to interact in a relaxed setting with one another and with invited experts like Dr. Olmert. **Kiel Downey**, the Department's MAIS Advisor and Internship Director, was the key organizer of this well-attended, informative, and fun event.

The Third Annual Pi Sigma Alpha Lecture featured Dr. **Paula McClain** of Duke University, Professor of Political Science, Public Policy, and

African-American Studies, Co-Director of the Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity, and Gender, and Dean of the Graduate School. Dr. McClain spoke at an open-to-the-public event on the evening of March 28, on the subject of "Race, Immigration and Intergroup Relations: Results from Three Southern Cities." The event was, as always, sponsored by the College, the Department, and USC's Gamma Chi Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society, and organized by POLI Undergraduate Direc-

tor and Associate Professor **Charles Finocchiaro**.

Several events were also organized and sponsored by the Department's **Political Science Research Workshop**, coordinated this academic year by Assistant Professors **Amanda Licht** and **Andrea McAtee**. The Workshop aims to foster collective interaction and collaboration, as well as individual research, by having individuals—POLI graduate students, POLI faculty, outside guests—share with one another their current research. During the Spring semester, two POLI faculty members, Professors **David Darmofal** and **Xuhong Su**, shared their work. On January 18, Professor Darmofal presented research on "The Privatization of Conflict? A Spatial Analysis of the System of 1896," and Professor Su presented some of her current research at a Workshop on March 29. Three outside guests also presented research. Dr. **Donald Green**, who served as the keynote speaker for the Graduate Student Research Conference on February 23, presented work at a February 22 Workshop on "Do Online Advertisements Increase Po-

litical Candidates' Name Recognition or Favorability? Evidence from Randomized Field Experiments." On March 1, Dr. **Frank Baumgartner**, a Distinguished Professor from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, presented work on "The Politics of Information." And on March 19, Dr. **John Patty** of Washington University gave a talk on "Giving Advice vs. Making Decisions: Transparency, Information, and Delegation."

In cooperation with the Philosophy Department, the Classics in Contemporary Perspectives initiative, directed by Associate Professor **Jill Frank**, hosted two speakers this semester: on March 1, **Julia Annas**, Regents Professor of Philosophy, University of Arizona, presented work on "Plato: virtue under the rule of law;" and on April 11, Professor **David Konstan**, Classics, New York University, presented on "Beauty and Desire or, When did Aesthetics Go Astray?" (in cooperation, as well, with the Student Government Association).

POLI Adjunct Professor Dr. **Donald Fowler** brought to campus, with De-

partment and College support, two distinguished speakers to speak to his students and to the University community more generally. This is something Don does regularly, and especially so for students in his popular "Politics and the Mass Media" course. On February 19, FCC Commissioner **Mignon Clyburn** (who graduated from USC in 1984 with a degree in Business) spoke to that class, and to other students and faculty who attended, about FCC structures and purposes and the ways in which wireless communications have changed and challenged FCC policies and decisions. This is the third time Commissioner Clyburn, who will begin a second term as an FCC Commissioner this year, has spoken to Don's class. Don also invited to campus **Karen Tumulty**, National Political Correspondent for *The Washington Post*. On March 19, Ms. Tumulty lectured in the "Politics and the Mass Media" class, and then, at 3:30 on the same day, she gave a well-attended public talk on "Why Can't Washington Get Its Act Together?"

Graduate Student News

Doctoral student **Ali Demirdas** is serving during this Spring semester as an Adjunct Instructor at the College of Charleston, teaching courses on Comparative Methodology, Middle East Politics, and Introduction to International Studies. As part of his work, Ali organized a teleconference in March between College of Charleston students and students at both the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the American University in Cairo in hopes of furthering cultural and political exchange. Ali has taught at the College before, during the 2011-12 academic year.

Laura Elder, also a doctoral student, presented a paper on "Ambivalence in Public Opinion and the Administrative State," at the Graduate Student Conference held here

in Columbia on February 23, and then presented a revised version at the South Carolina Political Science Association annual meeting on March 2 at Winthrop University.

Doctoral candidate **Clay Fuller** will be presenting two papers at the International Studies Association annual meeting in San Francisco in April. One is focused on "Regime Stability in Anocracies and the Role of Restricted Investment Economic Institutions." The other, co-authored with Professor Lee Walker, is on "The Persistence of Autocracy: A Process Model of Authoritarian Regime Survival." Clay, who is President of the Department's Political Science Graduate Student Organization, was instrumental in helping organize the February Re-

search Conference discussed elsewhere in this issue of the *Newsletter*, and he is also serving this year as President of the Sigma Iota Rho honors society. Also noteworthy is that Clay was awarded a Departmental West Forum Fellowship for the summer.

Congratulations to doctoral candidate **Jaewon Jang** for winning a highly competitive biostatistics position on a pediatric emergency team at Yale University. Jaewon expects to receive his Ph.D. this August.

TJ Kimel, a student in the doctoral program, presented two papers at the Southern Political Science Association annual meeting in January, one on “Voting ‘Right’: Examining Influences on Voting Sincerity on the State Supreme Courts,” the other on “Making Up Their Minds: Decision Making on State Supreme Courts.” TJ also was awarded a Departmental West Forum Fellowship for the summer.

Congratulations as well to doctoral student **Monica Lineberger**, who was awarded a Glenn Abernathy Fellowship for AY13-14 by the Department; and also a West Forum Fellowship for the summer. Monica, a Presidential Teaching Fellow and instructor in USC’s Social Advocacy and Ethical Life Initiative, was also selected to attend the Normative Implications of Empirical Research Workshop this May in Washington, D.C., in what was a very competitive, nationwide, process. And she presented a paper (co-authored with Professor Kirk Randazzo) on “Institutional Changes on the European Court of Human Rights,” at the Midwest Political Science Association’s annual meeting in April.

Doctoral student **Ali Masood** has won a Certification Scholarship from the Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models Institute. The Certificate provides funding for Ali to attend the Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research this summer at the University of Michigan. The availability of these highly competitive and prestigious scholarships is now in its second year, and our POLI doctoral students have won one of them in each of these years, Ali in 2013, and **Rebecca Reid** in 2012. Both students, it should be noted, are mentored by, and were encouraged to compete for the awards by, Professor Kik Randazzo. Ali has also been very busy publishing a forthcoming article with Professor Don Songer on “Re-evaluating Decision Making Models: The Role of Summary Decisions in U.S. Supreme Court Analysis” in

the *Journal of Law and Courts*; presenting two papers at the Southern Political Science Association annual meeting in January and a paper at the Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting (with Professor Songer and fellow student **Ben Kassow**) in April on “Law, Precedent, and Policy: The Effect of Legally Salient Precedent on Responses to the U. S. Supreme Court.” Ali also received the Best Paper Award at the Inaugural Graduate Student Research Conference, was awarded a West Forum Fellowship for the summer, and received the Pre-stage-Cook Travel Award from the Southern Political Science Association.

Doctoral student **Mark Partin** presented his paper on “Economic, Social and Political Factors and the Vote for School Bond Referendums” at the Inaugural Graduate Research Conference here at USC on February 23.

Doctoral candidate **Jonathan Rauh’s** article, “Give a Little or Lose a Lot: The Effects of Increased Transparency on Local Applications for Federal Grant Funds,” will be published in a forthcoming issue of the journal, *Administration and Society*. Also, Jonathan will present a paper in April at the Midwest Political Science Association’s annual meeting in Chicago on “Way Down South in Arizona,” which examines differences in the perceived effectiveness of state ethics commissions.

Congratulations are in order for doctoral candidate **Eun Jeong Soh**. She has received and accepted an offer for a two year, postdoctoral, Research Fellow position at Australian National University’s School of Culture, History and Language. Eun Jeong will be graduating in May, and then will move to the land down under to begin the position this summer.

Congratulations are also in order for **Jennifer Tison**, who received her PhD last August, and has recently accepted a position as Associate Director of Institutional Research at Morehead State University in Minnesota.

Doctoral student **Judit Trunkos** has been very busy presenting her research at a number of conferences during this Spring semester. In January, Judit presented a paper on “What is Soft Power Capability and How Does it Impact Foreign Policy?” at the Johns Hopkins University’s Institute for Cultural Diplomacy in Washington D.C., as well as a paper on “Democratic Consolidation in Hungary and Russia: The Cultural Approach” at the annual meet-

ing of the Southern Political Science Association in Orlando. Judit received from the Southern Political Science Association a Prestage-Cook Travel Award to help fund her participation there. In February, Judit presented an updated version of the Democratic Consolidation paper at the Graduate Student Conference here at USC, and in March an updated version of her Soft Power paper at the

South Carolina Political Science Association annual meeting at Winthrop University in Rock Hill. Judit is also planning to deliver a revised version of the Democratic Consolidation paper at the annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago in April.

Professor Randazzo Named Director of University Carolina Leadership Initiative

Associate Professor Kirk Randazzo was recently appointed Director of USC's Carolina Leadership Initiative. The first year of Kirk's three-year term began this January, after his selection by a University screening committee and interviews by the Provost and President. Kirk has been a member of the Department since 2008, and his research and teaching focus primarily on public law and research methods, but he has always been interested in both leadership studies and leading (for instance, as a leader in Kappa Kappa Psi, the national honorary fraternity for college band members). Kirk was instrumental in developing a POLI course entitled Introduction to Leadership Studies, and also in developing the University's Minor in Leadership Studies which is housed in our Department and which includes the Leadership Studies course as a requirement.

The Carolina Leadership Initiative seeks to promote leadership development on campus and to create new leadership projects. It is designed to help students develop the motivation and skills required to make a positive difference in their local communities, throughout the state of South Carolina, and around the nation and world. The Initiative sponsors the Leadership Scholars Program, which allows students to submit competitive proposals for funding, with the projects intended to promote the students' leadership skills.

When Kirk's selection was announced, Helen Doeringhaus, Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Studies at USC, said that "President Pastides has charted the leadership course at USC and our institution is committed to providing students with direction and opportunity to build leadership ability and experience. The faculty director of the Carolina Leadership Initiative heads this important undertaking. Dr. Randazzo is an excellent choice. He is experienced with leadership education, he teaches and conducts research in the area, students have traveled with him to Washington, D.C., on leadership study trips and he teaches the gateway course for the new leadership minor launched in fall 2012. Everyone who hears that Dr. Randazzo is stepping into the role says the same thing to me: 'Great choice! He's the ideal faculty member to lead the way.' "

Kirk believes that opportunities offered to undergraduates through the Initiative and the new Minor degree will make students more marketable when they leave campus. In doing consulting work on leadership for the U.S. State Department, companies, and nonprofits, he has learned that employers need and want individuals with leadership training "and they want it provided at the college level. We are the flagship university. Leadership walks hand-in-hand with that responsibility. We must lead, and that's Dr. Pastides' vision for the university – that we lead and engage," he said. "As a university, it's our responsibility to encourage our students to become better individuals. Part of that involves encouraging our students to be more civic-minded, to engage more. And leadership can be part of that. It's our fundamental responsibility to expose our students to it."



Kirk Randazzo

Kenny Whitby: Profile

Professor Kenny J. Whitby received his Ph.D. in 1983 from the University of Iowa after which he joined the POLI Department at the University of South Carolina. During his years as a faculty member, he has been a visiting professor at Arizona State University, University of California, Los Angeles, and Wayne State University. His research interests span a broad range of topics in American Politics, with particular emphases in the areas of elections, legislative politics, political parties, and racial politics. His teaching in these areas has been recognized by receipt of an excellence in teaching Mortar Board Award.

Kenny's research has been published in a variety of scholarly outlets, some of which include *American Politics Research*, *British Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Politics*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *Political Research Quarterly*, and *Social Science Quarterly*. His published research has also appeared in edited volumes published by distinguished presses including *Cambridge University Press* and *Temple University Press*. In addition, he is the author of the book entitled *The Color of Representation* (University of Michigan Press, 1997).



Kenny Whitby

His most recent research is on presidential nominations. His book on *Strategic Decisionmaking in Presidential Nominations: When and Why Do Party Elites Decide to Support a Candidate*, will be published by State University of New York Press. The central argument in this book is that party elites are strategic actors and their decision on when and whether to endorse a presidential candidate is largely a function of candidate-centric factors that occur during the protracted nomination process. In other words, party elites adopt a wait-and-see approach based on a variety of external and internal forces before rendering an endorsement decision. The book directly challenges the party centric argument (as evidenced, for example, in *The Party Decides*, 2008), which suggests that political parties remain the dominant force in the selection of a presidential nominee. The framework used to carry out the investigation is novel. Generally known as survival analysis, this analytical method provides information about when party elites decide to chime in on the presidential nomination campaign. The findings and conclusions of the book, which are based on the historic 2008 presidential nomination process that saw the first African American (Senator Barack Obama) and the first female (Senator Hillary Clinton) compete for the Democratic Party's nomination, tell us much about the dynamics of democratic presidential nomination processes. The expected date of publication is the summer/fall of 2013.

Professionally, Kenny has served as the Chair of the Committee on the Status of Blacks in the Profession of the American Political Science Association. Other notable professional service includes work as the Associate Editor of the *Journal of Politics* and service on the editorial boards of both that journal and the *American Journal of Political Science*. At South Carolina, Kenny has served as Vice Chair of the department as well as on numerous committees, and has also served on many College and University committees, including the University Committee on Tenure and Promotion.

Alumni News

Each year, the College of Arts and Sciences recognizes outstanding alumni, and virtually every year, one or more of the recipients turns out to be a POLI alum. This year, two POLI alumni were recognized and honored at the Recognition of Excellence Dinner held on March 22. Dr. **Jason C. Hu** began his graduate career as a USC International Studies student in the early 1970s, and did his post-graduate work here as well. In 1991, he was appointed Director General of the Government Information Office, and served from 1996-97 as Taiwan's chief representative (de facto ambassador) to the USA. From 1997-99, Dr. Hu headed Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. After his Nationalist Party lost the presidential election in 2000, Dr. Hu returned to his home city of Taichung to run for the mayoral office and has, to date, been elected three times, in 2001, 2005, and 2010. In 2010, Taichung City and County merged into one mega city and its status elevated to a "Direct Municipality" (under the cabinet) after Taipei and Kaohsiung. Dr. Hu is the recipient of many national and international awards, both political and academic. In 1993, for instance, he received both the Best Government Spokesman Award and the Top Ten Chinese Award, and in 1996 he was awarded the Outstanding Professional Achievement Award by the Chinese American Academic and Professional Society. In 2007, Dr. Hu led his city of Taichung to the international arena, when Taichung

was awarded "City of the Year" in the category of Arts and Culture from London's World Leadership Forum.

The other honored POLI alum was **Michael Tongour**. Mr. Tongour received his BA in Political Science in 1978--the same year he was honored as the Department's Outstanding Senior—and he went on to earn a law degree from the USC Law School in 1981. After practicing law in Columbia for a few years, Mr. Tongour accepted a position as Counsel to the US Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee, and later was promoted Legislative Director to Senator Strom Thurmond. In 1989, he was appointed Chief Counsel and Staff Director to the Senate Republican Whip Alan Simpson, a position he performed so well that the leading Congressional newspaper, *Roll Call*, included him regularly on its list of the "Top 50 Congressional Staffers with Real Power." He served as well as President of RAMS, an association of Republican Congressional staff directors, and President George H. W. Bush named him to the Commission on the Presidential Appointment Process. After leaving Capitol Hill in 1996, Mr. Tongour founded a government relations consulting firm, now known as the TCH Group. And he is also Special Counsel to the South Carolina based firm, Haynsworth Sinkler Boyd, P.A., and manages that firm's Washington office. Mr. Tongour has been retained for his expertise in the federal legis-

lative process by a great many private companies, non-profits, and municipalities; over the years, his policy advocacy has contributed to warning labels on alcoholic beverages, funding for literacy and dropout prevention programs in economically disadvantaged areas, improved drainage infrastructure in Charleston, funding for Historically Black Colleges and Universities, the expansion of broadband internet access in rural areas, the furtherance of safe, clean nuclear energy development, and more. We are proud to be able to say that Mr. Tongour retains his ties with the POLI Department as a member of our Partnership Board.

Charles Beaman, Jr. (BA in Political Science, 1973) has been named President-elect of USC's University Association for 2012-13. Charles is the CEO of Palmetto Health in South Carolina.

Georgia Gillens (BA in Political Science, 1986) received the President's Outstanding Service Award from the South Carolina Association of Governmental Purchasing Officials, Inc. She was also inducted as the organization's Vice President for 2012. Georgia is a procurement manager at the SC Budget and Control Board's Materials Management Office.

Ryan Holt (BA in Political Science, 2006) has recently been named a member of the Lexington Medical

Center Board of Directors. He is an attorney with Sweeny, Wingate and Barrows P. A. in Columbia.

Tommy Preston, Jr. (BA in Political Science, 2007) is President-elect of the Gates Millennium Scholars Alumni Association; he is an attorney and an associate in the Nexsen Pruet firm in South Carolina.

Yvonne Visser Propes (MAIS, 1988) has taken a position at the

USC School of Law as Associate Director of Career Services.

Dr. Christine Sixta Rinehart's book, *Volatile Social Movements and the Origins of Terrorism* has been recently published by Lexington Books Press. Christine received her PhD from the Department in 2008.

Kelli Sullivan (BA in Political Science, 1993) has been chosen as a member of Leadership Carolina,

class of 2013, by the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce. She is an attorney with McKay, Cauthen, Settana, and Stublely P.A.

Faculty News

Katherine Barbieri served as an invited participant at a Liberty Fund Conference on "International Ethics and Free Government" in San Antonio, Texas, February 7-10.

Robert Cox, who serves as the Co-Editor of the journal *Governance*, reports that *Governance* has been ranked among the top ten Public Administration journals for the fifteenth year in a row (it was ranked number six this year)!

Todd Shaw was elected the President-Elect of the National Conference of Black Political Scientists at its annual meeting in Chicago, March 6-10, 2013. He will assume the presidency of the group in March of 2015. Todd was also appointed to the Administrative Committee of the APSA Executive Council by President Jane Mansbridge. He will serve on the APSA Executive Council until August of 2014. In addition, Todd's co-authored book chapter with Kasim Ortiz, James McCoy, and Athena King, entitled "The Last Black Mayor of Atlanta? Kasim Reed and the Increasing Complexities of Black Politics," is in print in the Ravi Perry edited volume, *21st Century Urban Race Leaders*, with Emerald Press. Finally, Todd co-presented a paper, "Who's on Third? The Increasing Complexities of Black Electoral Politics" with Athena King at the 44th Annual Meeting of the National Conference of Black Politics, Chicago, IL, March 6 – 10.

Don Songer has most recently published two articles, the first in *Justice System Journal* (33: 340-62) entitled "The Dog that Didn't Bark: Debunking the Myths Surrounding the Attitudinal Model of Supreme Court Decision Making." The second was co-authored by Don with graduate student Nadia Jilani and former graduate student Susan Johnson (at UNC Greensboro) on "Judge Gender, Critical Mass, and Decision Making in the Appellate Courts of Canada" in the *Journal of Gender, Politics and Policy* (32:237-260). Don also presented in January, at the Southern Political Science Association meeting, a paper with former students John Szmer (UNC Charlotte) and Jennifer Bowie (University of Richmond) on "Why the 'Haves' Win: Examining Party Capability Theory;" and with current graduate student Ali Masood, Don presented a second paper at the Southern meeting on "Reconsidering Gender Effects on Judicial Outcomes in the U.S. Courts of Appeals." Don has been busy as well with several other professional and community service events. He was the Keynote Speaker at a March Clemson University symposium on Globalization, where he spoke on "Bargaining, Political Preferences, and Collegiality on Courts in the Common Law World." He was also a guest lecturer in a class on International Law at Clemson. At the Southern Political Science Association annual meeting, he served as a discussant on a panel on Public Opinion and Judicial Legitimacy, as discussant on a Roundtable on Field Research in Judicial Politics, as chair and discussant of a Mini Conference on a PhD Prospectus

for Congress and Law and Courts, and was featured in the Author Meets Critics panel for his recently published book (co-authored with Johnson and Ostberg) on *Law, Ideology and Collegiality* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2012). In addition to these professional appearances, Don taught a class on "Issues Facing the New Congress and the President" at Columbia Shepherd's Center for senior citizens.

On April 4, Distinguished Professor **Harvey Starr** will deliver his International Studies Association Presidential address "On Geopolitics: Spaces and Places," in San Francisco. Harvey was elected to serve as President-elect of the ISA for 2012-13, and as President for 2013-14; the election recognizes and honors a distinguished history of scholarship and professional service and leadership, and it marks the second time a POLI faculty member has achieved this position (retired Distinguished Professor Charles Kegley served as President of the ISA). Harvey's scholarship in the logic of inquiry in the study of international relations and foreign policy, international conflict, geopolitics, and failed states, has been both innovative and influential; and his professional activities include leading positions in the American Political Science Association and the Peace Science Society as well as in ISA, and in numerous editorial and other professional roles. At USC, Harvey is an active member of the Walker Institute, the Rule of Law Collaborative, and the Jewish Stud-

ies Program, and of course a leading member of the POLI Department, including its past chair (from 1998-2006).

Laura Woliver was awarded the prestigious Erika Fairchild Award at the annual meeting of the Southern Political Science Association in January. Sponsored by the Women's Caucus for Political Science-South, the Award is bestowed once every two years on worthy recipients whose careers are marked by a "strong record of scholarship, strong commitment to students and teaching, service to the profession, and collegial spirit." This certainly describes Laura, the author of two books and dozens of articles and book chapters, an effective teacher and dedicated mentor to innumerable students and colleagues, and a leader at this University and in both the American and the Southern Political Science Associations. A reception honoring Laura was also held at the Conference.

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.



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