

# POLITICAL SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

Spring 2005  
Blodgett 202

Prof. Wilson  
877-4590

## CLASS OF 2005

The Political Science Department congratulates Leona John, Portland Lawson, and Kristina Stephenson who are expected to receive honors in Political Science at Commencement.

The following majors hope to graduate in 2005: Alero Akuya, Robert Entenmann, Michelle Goodman, Leona John, Joseph Kinder, Portland Lawson, Pamela Peters, Carmen Pinero, Jeanine Rolle, and Kristina Stephenson.

Our January 2005 graduates were: Ana Genao, Carlos Hernandez, Gina Sugarman, Jasmine Vasquez, and Agata Zwierzycka.

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### *Leona John Asks Political Science Students:*

**“What do you think Professor Wilson will do after he retires?”**

He will write a book about African pride.

-Ally/Patrick B.

He will go back to Jamaica and run for Prime Minister.

-Nathalie N.

I think Prof. Wilson will run for President of the United States of America and beat out Carrot Top 51% to 49%.

-Dan C.

He will write a book titled “It’s Not Gonna Happen!”

-Evan S.

In addition to the book above, he will write another book titled "All Things in Moderation."  
Then he will learn how to drive so he can drive to Adelphi as a visiting professor.  
-Elvin R.

Absolutely nothing.  
-Ann S.

Professor Wilson will buy a Verizon cell phone and a Dell computer.  
-Lillian C.

"I don't think he'll turn a blind eye to politics. He survived Reagan so he's in good shape. He'll probably do a lot of writing."  
-David F.

Professor Wilson will be greatly missed. We wish you the best in whatever you choose to do!

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### **THREE POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJORS INDUCTED INTO OMICRON DELTA KAPPA**

This past December, political science majors Chelle Buffone, Robert Meekins, and Karen Wynholds were inducted into the honor society Omicron Delta Kappa. Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK) is a national honor society for college men and women, founded in 1914, which gives recognition to meritorious leadership and service in extracurricular activities and promotes outstanding scholarship and encourages the development of general campus citizenship. The students initiated have provided outstanding service and leadership in a plethora of campus and community activities and programs. Membership into the society is awarded primarily to junior and senior students, although graduate students, administration, and alumni may also be invited to join. Qualifications for induction include exemplary character, responsible leadership, service in campus and community life, and outstanding scholarship. ODK was chartered at Adelphi in May 2002 thanks to the petitioning process initiated by President Robert A. Scott.

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### **FROM COMMENCEMENT TO KIEV: A PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER IN UKRAINE**

January 2005

By *Vida Manavizadeh*

Political Science Alumna 2004

Ukrainians love to feed people. I have learned that saying "no thank you" gets you nowhere. My host family is quintessentially Ukrainian when it comes to this. I understand my host

grandmother surprisingly well, considering she speaks only Russian and apparently has only one tooth. Her new quest in life is to feed me. Despite the huge quantities of food I attempt to consume, she still putters around the house shaking her head, muttering disapprovingly in Russian how little I eat. If I do not drink at least five cups of tea everyday, my host family looks at me very strangely, and says, “Drink, drink. Why are you not drinking, are you ill?” I’ve tried to limit tea consumption because the outhouse is located next to a cage of three rottweiler dogs that have been trained to kill. I am not at all convinced that these dogs aren’t able to get out of their cage. The dogs don’t seem to understand that I don’t want to steal the goats, I just need to use the outhouse. It is a traumatic experience every time.

Life in the Peace Corps is filled with obstacles, and this is exactly what I signed up for. It was not too long ago that I filled out the application to join the Peace Corps. Some days are difficult and excruciatingly frustrating. I’ve learned that the Peace Corps Volunteers who succeed have learned to just laugh in the face of adversity. Life is exhilarating and challenging in a way that it could never have been if I had decided to stay in the United States and go to graduate school. When I found out I was going to Ukraine, I wasn’t quite sure what to expect. All I really knew was that it was very cold and there was a lot of vodka. I left everything familiar without even knowing what language I would be learning. Before I got off the airplane, someone told me that “da” is “yes” in Russian and that was the only word I knew. Peace Corps service lasts for two years and three months, and the first three months consists entirely of language and professional training. During training, I spent a couple of hours everyday trudging through the snow to get to a local school where I taught English and then later I had Russian class with three other Peace Corps Trainees. I went to sleep the first night wondering if I’d ever learn enough Russian to say “thank you very much, but I don’t like liver and pig fat” and I woke up a few months later and I could read the once funny looking Russian letters and I found that I could have substantial conversations with people.

I had always assumed that by the end of my undergraduate studies at Adelphi that my path in life would be clear. In reality I found that by senior year things were even more muddled than they had been when I entered college. With time, sparkling clarity had not come, as I had assumed. I applied to graduate school as many of my friends were doing, but I simultaneously applied to the Peace Corps. I thought about the Peace Corps and a life of uncertainty. I looked at the Peace Corps’ map of Third World countries, remembering how Henry David Thoreau once wrote that *“The mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation and go to the grave with the song still in them.”* I realized that life is not just graduate school and life is not just law school. The assumption that the Peace Corps is made up of starry-eyed twenty-two year old liberals fresh out of college is surprisingly not true. The diversity of those serving as Peace Corps Volunteers suggests that graduate school and employment do not necessarily bring clarity or satisfaction either.

During the spring semester of my senior year, I knew that I didn’t want to be in school any longer. ... I was tired of theories and textbooks. The Peace Corps provided an opportunity to engage in the world in an immediate way. I came to what I thought was a quiet Eastern European country and I watched it explode politically. Over a hundred thousand people marched on Kyiv, the capital, this past November and December and revolution was in the air as parts of Ukraine threatened to secede and claim independence. The Peace Corps is an apolitical organization, but many of the countries they send volunteers to are struggling to define

themselves internally and establish an identity among other nations. When I was at home, NGOs and international organizations were the stuff of textbooks. In the Peace Corps many of us come in contact with and work side by side with these organizations. We apply for grants, we do HIV/AIDS training, we work on community development, we organize camps for young people, we build resource centers, among other things: in short, we work on the grassroots level and help citizens build their country. I no longer read about technical assistance and grassroots development in books; now I have become a part of grassroots development.

My message is that there are opportunities beyond what you may see as open to you. A year ago I sent in my application for the Peace Corps, and now I live in a village teaching English to children, most of whom cannot afford school books. Soon I will have the opportunity to develop secondary projects of my own. And I have the honor of doing all of this in a country whose people are struggling to find their own identity. I was told before I came here that Ukrainians had no hope for the future. But I have seen their hopes and I have witnessed their passion, and it is exhilarating to help people build a stronger sense of self in a country that has only had independence for 12 years. The Peace Corps life is far from easy, but I think there is truth to what Ernest Hemingway once wrote: *“The world breaks everyone and afterward many are strong at the broken places.”*

If anyone is considering the Peace Corps and would like to contact me, I would be happy to answer any questions. You can email me at: [vidapuppy78@yahoo.com](mailto:vidapuppy78@yahoo.com)

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## **TWO POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJORS REPRESENT ADELPHI AT AIR FORCE ACADEMY ASSEMBLY ON DEMOCRACY**

From February 8<sup>th</sup> through the 11<sup>th</sup>, political science majors ***Chantal Hamlin*** and ***Chelle Buffone*** attended the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Air Force Academy Assembly on “Spreading Democracy: America’s Obligation?” at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. Each day the students were briefed on a topic and then divided into roundtable discussions. They were grouped with students from all around the US and Canada. After 3 days of discussions within their groups, all of the student groups met to try to reach a consensus on statements to questions such as “What instruments do policy makers use to promote democratization, and is this an appropriate use of tools?” and “Is democracy culturally specific?” Chelle and Chantal had a great experience at the conference.

Chelle comments:

“It was a nice change of pace to be looking at a subject from the outside in, as opposed to school where you learn all the fundamentals. This kind of assembly really forced one to use their critical thinking skills and tackle questions that legislators and high officials face every day. To be able to use all the things you have spent so much time learning at your easy disposal to support your ideas only

made me want to learn more so that I can become a stronger debater. Another thing that added a great dynamic was the diversity of the participants. They were from all over the place, coming from extremely different backgrounds, so you really got a good representation of a variety of views. Then when a question on military protocol would come up, there would be someone from West Point who could answer with authority on the issue. There were some people, like myself, who were more in tune with domestic affairs, some more into international institutions and so on, so the variance worked really well for us. The best was at the end when we all were in the theater-style auditorium and had to ‘ok’ what the group rapporteur had documented as the agreed upon answer to the questions. People were standing, up shouting back and forth, and all with such different styles and ways of coming across. I felt like I was in Parliament. It was like seeing true Democracy in action.”

Chantal adds:

“During this turbulent time in international politics, I am grateful that I was able to attend such an important conference. This conference and our subject, ‘Spreading Democracy: America’s Obligation’ is very important especially during the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The issue of America being the “policing force” of the world has also been questioned. States have wondered whether or not America had the right to take such a role. Today states are questioning America’s forceful nature in spreading what it thinks to be the most superior form of government, democracy, is necessary. There was a lot to be learned about realist, liberal and constructivist worldviews at this conference, as well as the American conservative and liberal views. This was an unforgettable experience and it will be interesting to see what the future holds for America, the international world and democracy itself. After this conference, I’m not quite sure if Liberal Democracy is the absolute end of history.”

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**LECTURE REQUIREMENT:** All political science majors are required to attend one seminar/lecture a semester. There are many exciting events on campus which can enrich your educational experience. A list of events is attached at the end of this newsletter.

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**PI SIGMA ALPHA**

Pi Sigma Alpha is the national Political Science honor society, with over 420 chapters at most leading colleges and universities in the United States. The qualifications for membership in the Adelphi chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha are: (1) at least four courses (including one course at the 300 level) in Political Science with a "B" or better in each of the courses; and (2) an overall University QPA of at least 3.00. One need not be a Political Science major to be a member.

Continuing members of Pi Sigma Alpha include: Rob Meekins, Portland Lawson, Carmen Pinero, Joshua Riggs, and Peter Yacobellis.

The following students have now met the high academic requirements necessary to be eligible for induction into Pi Sigma Alpha: Alero Akuya, Chelle Buffone, Michelle DiPuma, Kristi Fundo, Jessica Haynes, Leona John, Stephen Kempey, Crissy Martinez, David Pengel, Laurie Rempp, Evan Sarris, Kristina Stephenson, and Stephanie Szitanyi. The official induction ceremony will take place at the end-of-semester dinner for graduating Political Science majors. A Pi Sigma Alpha meeting date will be announced in March.

Prof. Levy strongly encourages students who meet the eligibility criteria to join Pi Sigma Alpha and become involved with our Adelphi chapter. Membership makes one eligible to compete for lucrative national Pi Sigma Alpha competitions and awards—including best senior thesis and Washington D.C. internship stipends.

Note: the Department automatically checks the eligibility of Political Science majors. Non-majors may also be inducted, but they must inform the Department of their interest so we can verify their eligibility. Students who believe they qualify for induction but were not included on the list should contact Prof. Levy, the chapter advisor, at Levy@adelphi.edu or x.4595.

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### **LEVINE PRIZE**

Every year the Political Science Department awards the **Levine Prize** for the best paper in Political Science, submitted in a Political Science course within the previous three semesters. The paper must have received an "A" or better grade to enter the competition. The deadline for submission is March 21, 2005.

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### **DEPARTMENTAL HONORS**

This is another form of honors which the Department confers; these are for eligible graduating seniors who are Political Science majors. These honors are listed in the commencement program. The standards for Departmental honors are: completion of a seminar with a grade no lower than B, and 3.5 QPA in the major.

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### **ADVISING**

Make sure you plan your schedule with your advisor. We want you to have a plan which enables you to graduate with the best academic experience possible. It is the students' responsibility for

proper advisement. Early registration begins April 11<sup>th</sup>. **Advisement will begin March 28<sup>th</sup>.** **Make sure you come to your advisement appointment prepared.** Each semester you should take with you a copy of your program sheet, so you always have available the courses you have already taken and the requirements you need to complete.

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**MY WORK IN POLITICS: The Most Tumultuous and Rewarding Year of My Life**  
**by Peter Yacobellis, Political Science minor and Adelphi Senior class of '05**

I started the year off with an Internship in Hillary Clinton's office. I worked in the press department crafting releases, putting together press conferences, and talking to reporters. I also occasionally worked events with the Senator including the 2004 Human Rights Campaign dinner in NYC where I worked as her assistant and liaison to the press for the night. I interacted with the Senator on several occasions including one time when I got to share with her my concerns with GLBT youth suicide rates in the U.S. and we had a nice conversation about it. I developed a great relationship with the Senator's senior staff and they continue to look out for my well-being today.

Following my experience with Clinton, I pursued the Human Rights Campaign's Youth College program, where they selected us from a pool of applicants to train to work on various political campaigns around the country. I was part of a group of 30 individuals chosen for this program, and the only one from the Northeast.

I worked on Senator Barbara Boxer's re-election campaign, based in San Francisco. This was an incredible experience in which I got to know the Senator as I traveled the state with her and we shared meals on the *Boxer Road to Victory Tour*. I attended events where I would speak on her behalf, and I became one of the lead advance staff, acting also as a liaison to the press. When at the office, I worked under the northern California political director to run house parties, expand endorsement lists, put together rallies, and manage most office functions. This experience was tremendous, and I recently went to DC to see the Senator be sworn in. Following the ceremony, we had lunch and took a tour of the Senate including parts only accessible by senators and their families. While on the floor of the senate she talked to the handful of us about her thoughts regarding whether to vote against certifying Ohio's electoral votes. I told her I thought she should do it if for no other purpose then to force debate on the issue and shed light on the situation and potential issues of fraud. We all know what happened.

I recently appeared in the LA Times and on the House Democrats website taking a stand against social security privatization.

Currently I am the executive assistant for Sean Patrick Maloney who is running for New York State Attorney General in 2006. We have a west village office that just opened and an exciting campaign. Sean is formerly a senior advisor to President Clinton and is currently an attorney with Willkie Farr & Gallagher, most notably representing the Matthew Shepard family and doing

congressional investigations. I'm also a full time student at Adelphi, very eager to graduate this May. These experiences have taught me just how many people share my political ideology.

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## FACULTY NEWS

**Professor Regina Axelrod.** While on sabbatical in Prague (for four weeks in October 2004), she was an invited participant at the Conference on Energy and Security,” sponsored by the Prague Security Studies Institute and the Association for International Affairs, October 19-21. Vaclav Havel and Richard Perle attended. She also presented on her research on Czech nuclear energy policy at the Czech Institute for International Relations on October 22, 2005, where she was a research associate. She was in Brussels for two weeks, interviewing European Union officials, about a European-wide nuclear energy policy for a related research project.

Her article on “Nuclear Power and European Union Enlargement: The Case of Temelin,” was republished in a book, eds. Jo Ann Carmin and Stacey VanDeveer, EU Enlargement and the Environment: Institutional Change and Environmental Policy in Central and Eastern Europe, (New York: Routledge), 2005, 153-171.

**Professor Katie Laatikainen.** During the fall 2004 semester, Professor Laatikainen completed and began a number of scholarly projects. On October 22, 2004, she presented a paper, “In Search of UN Leadership: Constraints on Structural, Entrepreneurial and Intellectual Leadership,” at the International Studies Association-South Annual Conference in Columbia, South Carolina. On November 16, 2004, she was the featured speaker at Georgia Southern University where she presented a lecture entitled “The Effectiveness of the UN in dealing with Terrorism.” This lecture was part of the U.S. Department of State GAP (Global Access Program) program which links dozens of American universities together to participate in building awareness of pressing global issues. In October, Professor Laatikainen was informed that the case study she wrote, “The Politics of Crafting Europe’s Constitution,” was accepted for publication by Georgetown University School for International Diplomacy’s Pew Case Study Series after a peer review process. In December 2004, Palgrave-Macmillan offered Professor Laatikainen and her colleague Dr. Karen E. Smith at the London School of Economics a contract for their edited volume, *Intersecting Multilateralisms: The European Union at the United Nations*. Professor Laatikainen worked with students from Environmental Studies and Global Impact to produce a student panel addressing Energy, Oil, and Climate Change: Options for American Policy” which was held at Alumni House on October 6, 2005. Professor Laatikainen applied for and was awarded a small grant from the United Nations Foundation and the Better World Fund to hold support this student panel.

**Professor Traci Levy.** In November 2004, Professor Levy delivered a paper, “Theorizing Caregiver Rights” at the Northeastern Political Science Meeting (NPSA) in Boston. She also chaired a panel on democratic theory at the NPSA meeting. On campus, last semester Prof. Levy worked with a group of Adelphi students that organized and presented a series of educational debates on important public policies relating to the 2004 elections. (The debates took place in

October and November and were part of the larger, campus-wide V.O.T.E.R. project.) Additionally, Prof. Levy organized and attended an on-campus screening and discussion of the last presidential debate between President Bush and Senator Kerry.

**Professor Pierre Schori**, Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Department of Political Science, has been asked by Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations, to be his Special Representative for Côte d'Ivoire. He will take up his duties April 1, 2005. We wish Professor Schori, now Ambassador Schori again, the best of luck in his new duties. Special Representatives are selected by the Secretary-General to provide his "good offices" to disputing parties and are the essential component of the quiet diplomacy undertaken by the Secretary-General's office. SRs serve as conciliators and mediators in difficult conflicts as well as providing the Secretary-General with firsthand information about conditions in trouble spots around the world. As Special Representative to Côte d'Ivoire, Schori will also be the head of the mission with responsibility for the peacekeeping operation there under the mandate of the Security Council.

**Professor Lawrence R. Sullivan.** A co-translated and co-edited volume entitled Dai Qing: Tiananmen Follies, Prison Memoirs and Other Writings was published in January by EastBridge Press and will be reviewed in The New York Review of Books sometime this spring. A review by Professor Sullivan of the archaeological exhibit "Providing for the Afterlife: 'Brilliant Artifacts' from Shandong" currently at The China Institute, New York, will be published in an upcoming issue of Archaeology magazine. In January, Professor Sullivan participated in a forum convened at the Overseas Press Club in New York to discuss the new book by Seymour Topping entitled "Fatal Crossroads: A Novel of Vietnam, 1945".

## WASHINGTON INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Sponsored by  
POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Any student, interested in spending a semester or a summer as an intern in Washington, D.C., while receiving 12 or 15 Adelphi academic credits, should arrange an appointment with Prof. Axelrod, 202 Blodgett.

Any Adelphi undergraduate is eligible to apply. Interns thus far have included those with majors in Political Science, History, Communications, English, Business Management, Sociology, Education and Psychology.

The program involves a full semester or summer in Washington. Interns work 4 \_ days per week in an executive agency, Congressional office, interest group office, judicial agency, or other position. Each intern receives 9 credits (6 in the summer program) for the internship itself. Each intern also takes a 3 credit course while in Washington related to his/her internship. Finally, the intern submits a paper at the close of the internship comparing scholarly literature relating to the internship with his/her internship experience. This paper is worth a final 3 credits for a total of 15 credits for the Fall and Spring semester internships or 12 for the summer program. All credits are in Political Science. The internship itself is graded on a High Pass, Pass, or Fail basis; the course and the paper are graded on a regular A to F scale.

Preference is given to those applying for internships in their sophomore/junior year or the first semester of their senior year. Prerequisites include: three (3) political science courses, including a seminar, a 3.3 QPA overall and approval of the Political Science Internship Committee.

Students interested in the internship must plan ahead so that they will have the necessary prerequisites and so that they will be able to meet the requirements of their major despite one semester in Washington.

In order to comply with the preceding prerequisites, students must apply in the spring and take the required public policy seminar which is offered every Fall semester.

Applications and further information are available in the Political Science Department. Students who are interested, please contact Patricia Koslowski, Blodgett 202, 877-4590 for details.

Students pay regular Adelphi tuition for the 12 or 15 credits they receive for the internship. Students are responsible for housing costs in apartments provided by the Washington Center (WC). WC also provides the placement, guidance, and supervision of the interns while in Washington, with a member of the Political Science Department serving as liaison person. The only expenses the student must meet beyond this are for food and transportation. "Scholarships are available."

3/11/02

**POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJORS  
LECTURE REQUIREMENT SPRING 2005**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Speaker</u></b>
Feb. 1	Ambassador Allan Rock Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations <i>"Threats, Challenges, and Change: Lessons From a Year at the United Nations"</i> Tuesday, 12:30 p.m., University Center Ballroom
Feb. 16	David William Blight <i>"Has the Civil War Memory Divided or United America?"</i> Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., University Center Ballroom
Feb. 18	The Dream Alive Program Featuring Joe Rogers <i>"A Dedication to the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr."</i> Friday, 8 p.m., University Center Ballroom
Feb. 24	Ambassador Crispin Grey-Johnson Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Gambia to the United Nations <i>"Beyond Conflict: The UN and the Challenges of Post-Conflict Reconstruction"</i> Thursday, 12:30 p.m., University Center Ballroom
Feb. 28	Seymour Hersh <i>"Chain of Command: From 9/11 to Abu Ghraib"</i> Monday, 7:00 p.m., University Center Ballroom
<u>Mar. 28</u>  60"	United Nations Conference <i>"Threats, Challenges and Change: Collective Security and the United Nations at Full Day Conference, University Center Ballroom</i>
Mar. 30	European-American Global Perspectives Student Symposium With Students from Adelphi University; and Uppsala University, Sweden Wednesday, 1:00-2:15 p.m., University Center 313

**Students must attend ONE lecture each semester.**

3/21/05