

# POLITICAL SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

Fall 2007  
Chair: Professor Axelrod

Department office: BLD 202  
Department phone: 877-4590

## **GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR**

Message from the Chair:

Welcome to the new majors in political science, especially the freshmen. The political science faculty looks forward to getting to know you and helping you through the program. Please, stop by the Political Science Department's office in Blodgett 202. There are newspapers, magazines, and journals for you to read.

There are numerous cultural events this semester that we encourage you to attend. Every major should attend one a semester. A list is on the last page of this newsletter.

I would like to emphasize study abroad opportunities as part of your program of study. It is important to experience the culture, society, and political system of another country as part of your education. It also provides greater understanding of one's own political culture, and it's fun! I recently returned from Prague in the Czech Republic, where I met students from North America and Europe. Prague is centrally located in Europe so that students can easily visit other cities such as, Krakow, Vienna, Budapest, and Berlin. Two programs I recommend are NYU in Prague and The University of Economics. Contact me at (516)877-4591 for more information. We are also part of a BA/MA program with The Central European University in Budapest. The Adelphi/CEU dual degree program combines an Adelphi B.A. degree in international studies or political science with a CEU Master's degree in political science or international relations and European studies. Adelphi students enter into an accelerated academic program and complete both the undergraduate and graduate degrees in roughly five years, with at least 7 semesters in residence at Adelphi.

I wish you a successful and rewarding year at Adelphi University.

## **ADVISING**

It is important to see your advisor prior to registration. If you are unsure which faculty member is your advisor, please see the administrative assistant, Nicole Licata, in the Political Science office, Blodgett 202. Faculty members will be posting hours for students to schedule advising appointments. Please come to your appointment prepared. Many faculty advisors also appreciate it if students submit their proposed schedules to C.L.A.S.S. before their advising meeting.

## POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT AWARDS

The recipients of these awards are announced at the annual Political Science Senior Dinner, usually held in May. These honors are also showcased in the commencement program.

### **1. Hugh A. Wilson Award for Social and Economic Justice**

The Hugh A. Wilson Award recognizes a senior political science major for activism in the areas of social and economic justice. The selection criteria are activities that serve the public interest, traditionally vulnerable groups, and/or social and economic equality.

Self or peer nomination.

Deadline: March 15

Award: Monetary

#### **Past Award Recipient:**

**2007:** Chantal Hamlin

### **2. Robert J. Johnson Prize for Best Political Science Paper**

Every year the Political Science Department awards the Johnson Prize for the Best Paper in Political Science. The paper must have been submitted in a political science course within the previous three semesters and received a grade of "A." Students may enter more than one paper.

Self nomination.

Deadline: March 15

Award: Monetary

#### **Past Award Recipients:**

**2007:** Christian A. Fundo and Chantal Hamlin

### **3. W. Grafton Nealley Award for Excellence in Political Science**

The department bestows the W. Grafton Nealley Award for Excellence in political science to its most outstanding senior. A committee of faculty members evaluates potential award recipients, taking into consideration factors such as grade point average in Political Science, the number and difficulty of courses taken, and improvement over time.

Students are nominated by the Political Science faculty

Award: Monetary, a book selected by the Political Science faculty, and the recipient's name displayed on a plaque in the department office

#### **Past Award Recipient:**

**2007:** Michelle DiPuma

#### **4. Departmental Honors**

Departmental honors are conferred on students who have a QPA of 3.5 or better in the major and have completed a seminar with a “B” or higher.

#### **Past Recipients Include:**

**2007:** Peter Abrami, Michelle DiPuma, Christian Fundo, Chantal Hamlin, Maxwell Heintz, Joseph Welsh, Megan Wilkins

We greatly appreciate the generosity of Professor Emeritus Hugh Wilson in funding the Hugh A. Wilson Award, the Robert J. Johnson prize, and the W. Grafton Nealley Award.

### **Alumni Update**

*Please keep in touch with the Political Science Department after graduating.  
We love to hear from our alumni.*

**Eric Alexander** (1992) serves as Executive Director for Vision Long Island. Vision Long Island’s “mission is to join with others to promote more livable, economically sustainable and environmentally responsible growth on Long Island.”

**Elisa Athonvarangkul** (2001) is pursuing a graduate degree from the School of Advanced International Studies, John Hopkins University.

**Michael Balboni** (1982) serves as Deputy Secretary for Public Safety, the senior security official in New York State.

**Timothy Beaucage** 2007, (Political Science Track in International Studies) received a Student Fulbright to teach in Hamburg, Germany during 2007-2008.

**Tatiana Carayannis** (1987) is serving as Associate Director of the Conflict Prevention and Peace Forum, part of the Social Research Council.

**Jessica Castro** (2004) is the Chief Operating Officer for an up-and-coming company specializing in measuring fuel efficiency and developing more fuel efficient technologies for businesses.

**LaToya Dennis** (2007) is working for the New York City Board of Education.

**Michelle DiPuma** (2007) is a first-year law student at Hofstra.

**David Fuller** (2006) is beginning his first semester in the Political Science and American Studies M.A. program at the University of Connecticut.

**Christian Fundo** (2007) recently took the LSAT and began a job with the law firm Christo and Associates. His work currently centers on the immigration cases of Albanians.

**Kelly Gelling** (2006) is beginning her first semester of graduate school in New York University's Political Science program.

**Chantal Hamlin** (2007) is pursuing her first year of law school at Cardozo.

**Fatemeh Haji-Hosseini** (2003) received her Master's Degree in Political Theory and Gender Studies from Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada in 2005. She completed her LLM at the Osgood Law School in 2006 and is currently working on her Ph.D. in Law from the Osgood Law School. Her dissertation focuses on International Human Rights law, legal theory, and women in the Middle East. She recently married and is moving to Houston, Texas.

**Brett Heimov** (1992) serves as Vice President for Dutko Worldwide.

**Thomas Honzik** (1997) works as the Senior Recruiting Manager for his own company, based in Southern California.

**Melissa Kutner** (2007) began her studies in Bryn Mawr's Dual Degree Program in Master of Social Services and Master of Law and Social Policy.

**Vida Manavizadeh** (2004) was accepted to numerous nursing programs in the United States after working for several non-profit organizations in Portland, Oregon. This fall, she began to attend a three-year program at Oregon Health and Science University in Portland.

**Jason Mulligan** (1991) is working as an investigator for the New York State Division of Human Rights.

**Christine Neagle** (1998) is an Attorney and Litigation Associate at Kaye Scholer LLP, a Manhattan law firm.

**Michael Nightingale** (1993) heads up his own law firm, the Law Office of Michael Nightingale.

**David Pengel** (2006) recently began a job as a Development Associate at the Lebanese American University's New York development office.

**Marianne Perricone** (2005) graduated from Hunter College with a Master's in Urban Planning in August 2007. This past summer, she switched from an internship to a regular position at Fractured Atlas, an arts service organization.

**Elvin Ramos** (2006) was Development Assistant and Executive Assistant to the President and CEO at Island Harvest ([www.islandharvest.org](http://www.islandharvest.org)) last year. (Island Harvest is a nonprofit organization that seeks to end hunger and reduce food waste on Long Island.) He recently began his first semester at St. John's, enrolled in a Doctor of Arts Program for Modern History, Leadership, and Education.

**James D. Ramirez** (2000) serves as the Relationship Officer for JP Morgan International Private Banking.

**Jeanine Rolle** (2005), upon successful completion of the Paralegal Program at Hofstra University, worked for the staff counsel to AIG before moving to Maryland, where she is applying to law school.

**Joe Rotkowitz** (2006) began his first year at Touro Law.

**Sabine Rospide** (2007), a double major, won the Phyllis E. Jackson Award for Scholastic Excellence from Adelphi's Department of African-American and Ethnic Studies last year.

**Michael Salvi** (2006) is a corporate services coordinator for Harper Collins Publishing.

**Ignace Sanon-Jules** (1997) is working as a United States Probation Officer.

**Evan Sarris** (2006) is pursuing his M.A. in Political Management at George Washington University (GWU) in Washington, D.C. He also works in the financing and development division of GWU's Housing Department.

**Eva Sobczynska** (2006) holds the position of Junior Professional Associate at the Sustainable Development Network, part of The World Bank. She works in the Washington, D.C. office.

**Janet Haglund Ward** (1992) is the Client Services Manager for Wright Risk Management.

## **STUDENT SURVEY**

### **Informal Student Survey**

**Interviews by Joseph Conte and Robert Danziger**

**Question: "To what degree, if any, should the United States guarantee the political and human rights of suspected and/or convicted terrorists?"**

Student Responses:

- “Personally I believe that terrorists are violating human rights. They destroy life and property. In that same line of thinking, I believe they give up their own rights and the U.S. should not protect them” (Anthony Rotundo, Class of 2008).
- “Despite the fact that convicted terrorists have violated human rights, the United States is a nation founded upon the principles of political rights and freedom for all. However, depending on the scale of their actions, certain repercussions should certainly ensue if it will ensure the future safety of American lives” (Maegan DelGiudice, Class of 2008).
- “Aside from the lack of credibility of information obtained through abuse and torture, there is a greater danger posed by not guaranteeing the political and human rights of detainees. Our country was created on the basis that certain basic civil and human rights were beyond violation. The erosion of the Constitution, which has begun through denying detainees the right of habeas corpus, is a peril far more insidious than a physical

attack; it points to the possibility of a loss of America's most treasured and basic values. This is the hope of our enemies and, despite our fears, we must resist fulfilling it” (Tricia Hardgrove, Class of 2009).

- “The United States should not have to worry about terrorists' human rights considering they came to violate the human rights of our citizens” (Aloma Tucker-Alston, Class of 2011).
- “Constitutional law is designed to protect and serve the country. If a person decided to attempt terrorist acts on our country then our rules and laws do not apply to these violators” (Wanda Christophe, Class of 2009).
- “I believe suspected terrorists deserve the same rights as someone who is suspected of crimes of the same magnitude, for instance someone who commits murder. CONVICTED terrorists may need to be monitored more closely due to their unpredictability and the fact that they are actually convicted” (Fara Fiore, Class of 2010).
- “There should be some rights that are kept because if they are suspected terrorists there is a chance that they did not commit a crime. If they are convicted terrorists, then they need to be punished since they violated innocent peoples’ rights themselves” (Melody Maher, Class of 2009).
- “Since human rights policy is a very sensitive international issue U.S. should pay more attention to this policy. U.S. foreign policy only covers its own territories. I think the U.S. should stay out of the Middle East if they want to prevent the terrorist attacks. If they stop fighting an unjust war, no one will be able to attack back. It is not self defense that the U.S. kills terrorists and innocents” (Dilek Ulukaya, Class of 2010).
- “In all honesty, while these people are criminals and inflict ridiculous amounts of pain on the lives of those they touch, they deserve to be treated like humans no matter how evil they may be. If Americans were in the same position they too would want the fair treatment they deserve” (Nikki Kateman, Class of 2009).
- “Give them the same rights as we give everyone else. If we're a country that rests on democratic principles, we should treat them all the same way” (Adaeze Udoji, Class of 2008).

### **Lauren Goldberg Reports from Washington, D.C.**

Hello from Washington, D.C! For all of you who do not know me, which I am sure is many, my name is Lauren Goldberg and I am a senior Political Science major. I transferred to Adelphi from the New School University in New York City the first semester of my sophomore year, which was the fall of 2005. I am currently spending this semester (Fall 2007) interning in Washington, D.C. through the Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars. I learned about this program the first time I met with my advisor, Professor Axelrod. Since then, I knew it was an experience I did not want to miss!

My time in Washington has, thus far, proven to be an interesting, educational and, overall, rewarding experience. I am working for the National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS), a non-profit organization that works to promote awareness in Congress about the Impact Aid program. Impact Aid is funding received by school district whose students' parents do not pay property taxes (for example, children who live on military bases or Native American reservations). Since the parents do not pay these taxes, the schools cannot generate revenue on their own; therefore, they are subsidized by the government. Few people, including members of Congress, know much about the program, although it serves almost 15 million children throughout the country.

With NAFIS, I have had the chance to learn more about politics and public policy than I ever could have in a classroom. It is one thing to read about how legislation is created and how it is affected by NGOs; it is certainly another to be a part of it! I find myself on Capitol Hill – attending committee hearings, lobbying, what have you – almost every day of the week! My interests lie within the field of educational law and policy, so this internship is right up my alley. I am currently writing my thesis for the Honors College on the implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act, its effects of Special Education in American, and how it can be changed for the better through its reauthorization. Being in Washington has allowed me access to more information than I could have ever found in the library. NAFIS' Executive Director often gets news about the Act and its reauthorization moments after it happens. In addition, I have been able to meet people, and obtain literature, from the Department of Education.

The Washington Center also requires each of its students to take a seminar course. Not only am I learning about public policy and education, the fields I set out to study, but I am also taking a class on Peace Studies, one of the few of its kind offered in the nation. This class is fascinating, and has introduced me to worlds of social and political thought I never knew about or would have considered. I cannot wait to come back to Adelphi to discuss these topics with my professors and fellow classmates!

Being in Washington has opened up a number of professional and academic doors to me that would always have remained closed in New York. In addition, and possibly more importantly, this internship and experience has forced me to open up socially. Like many (probably most) students at Adelphi, I am a native New Yorker who had never left the region before this semester. Through the Washington Center, I have met people from all around the country; people I never would have gotten the chance to meet otherwise. I am now happy to say that I have friends from Minnesota, California, Ohio, South Carolina, Iowa, Massachusetts – many are places I've never been, at one point would have stereotyped and judged, and now cannot wait to visit! If anything, I would suggest this program to any Adelphi student (not just Political Science majors, as many people at TWC are not) not only for the professional and educational experiences, but to have a chance to get out, experience a new city and meet incredible new people!

## FACULTY NEWS

**Professor Regina Axelrod** published, "Why Nuclear Energy is Not The Answer," International Relations and Security Network Case Study Series, [www.ish.ethz](http://www.ish.ethz), March 2007. From October 8<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> she gave five lectures at The University of Economics, Prague, as part of her Fulbright Senior Specialist Award. The lectures were on federalism, interest groups, agenda-setting and policy implementation for the political science program and North-South issues in international

environmental policy in the graduate environmental economics and administration. She also initiated collaborated programs with the graduate business program and the graduate environmental studies program, University of Economics, Prague international environmental policy for the graduate Environmental Studies department.

**Professor Margaret Gray** presented papers at three conferences this summer: The American Sociological Association, The American Political Science Association, and the Latin American Studies Association annual meetings. She was an invited speaker at a Rutgers University conference titled "Local Struggles: Immigrants, Latinos and Rights in New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania." Professor Gray also released a policy report titled "The Hudson Valley Farmworker Report." It portrays the demographic profile of an understudied population and presents the situation of a regional, immigrant, low-wage workforce. She conducted the research for this report with a team of students from the Bard College Migrant Labor Project.

**Professor Katie Laatikainen** During the Spring 2007 term, Professor Laatikainen was on leave following the birth of her son, Kai Oskar, on January 24, 2007. Professor Laatikainen's book, United Nations Politics: International Organization in a Divided World was released by Prentice-Hall. Her proposal for a paper, "Spreading the Word: Religion and Transnational Intercultural Relations," was accepted for the 2008 International Studies Association Conference. Over the summer, Professor Laatikainen completed negotiations on an articulation agreement for an internship abroad and dual degree programs with Central European University in Budapest, Hungary.

**Professor Traci Levy** presented a paper, co-authored with Prof. Elizabeth Palley (from Adelphi's School of Social Work), "U.S. Education Policy: Liberal Inadequacies and the Care Alternative," in May 2007 at Yeshiva University's Wurzweiler School of Social Work Conference in Manhattan. Prof. Levy also co-coordinated a faculty committee with Prof. Sally Ridgeway (Sociology) that successfully changed the Women's Studies minor to the Gender Studies minor. Prof. Levy served as a member of the coordinating committee for the Women, Peace, and Justice Project that organized a series of exhibits and panels on campus this fall. Over the summer, she attended the Carework Conference at the CUNY Graduate School in Manhattan.

**Professor Lawrence R. Sullivan** is co-translator and co-editor of the book, "Zhou Enlai: The Last Perfect Revolutionary" authored in Chinese by Mr. Wenqian Gao and published in October by Public Affairs, a major national and international publishing house. Prof. Sullivan also helped host the Art Exhibit titled "The Colors of the Buddhist Kingdom of Bhutan and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam" by the world-renown photo journalist, Audrey Ronning Topping, which ran in the UC from mid August to late September and which was covered in a Newsday article on September 20. A frequent participant in activities sponsored by the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations, Prof. Sullivan joined in a forum in New York City on China's involvement in international financial markets on October 3, 2007. Finally, Prof. Sullivan is editing the memoirs of Seymour Topping, former managing editor of the New York Times and Administrator of the Pulitzer Prize, entitled "Asian Wars: China, Vietnam, and Indonesia."

**Professor Hugh Wilson (Professor Emeritus)** was one of four members invited to read his poetry at a poetry reading event hosted by Paul Loeb, author of The Impossible Will Take a Little While, and sponsored by the Adelphi University Women, Peace and Justice Project. The poetry reading was held in New Hall Lounge on October 3, 2007.

**POLITICAL SCIENCE FALL 2007 LECTURES  
(Political Science Majors Must Attend One)**

**Thursday, September 27, 2007**

Noreen Harrington '81-“Perspectives on Corporate Fraud”  
University Center Ballroom, 11:00a.m.

**Monday, October 1, 2007**

Gerda Lerner-“Women’s History as a Tool for Social Change”  
University Center Ballroom, 7:00p.m.

**Wednesday, October 3, 2007**

Paul Loeb-“The Impossible Will Take a Little While”  
University Center Ballroom, 1:00p.m. (**Ticketed Event**)

**Tuesday, October 16, 2007**

CODEPINK Long Island: Film & Presentation  
Learn about this particular women's peace movement from the members of the local Long Island group.  
University Center Room 313, 9:25 a.m. - 10:40 a.m.

**Tuesday, October 16, 2007**

CODEPINK Peace Ribbon Panels and Exhibit  
To see details about the exhibit, go to: <http://events.adelphi.edu/wpj/exhibits.php>  
University Center Lobby, 10:40 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**(One paragraph reaction due to Political Science Department)**

**Tuesday, October 23, 2007**

Peter B. Goldberg-“Advocacy in a Conservative Society: An Impossible Dream?”  
University Center Ballroom, 7:00p.m.

**Monday, October 29, 2007**

Guantanamo Bay and Extraordinary Rendition: Panel Discussion Sponsored by Amnesty International  
University Center Room 211, 1:00p.m.

**Tuesday, November 13, 2007**

“Women, Peace and Justice: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow”  
University Center Ballroom, 6:00p.m.

**Monday, November 19, 2007**

Consul-General Ulf Hjertonnsson-“The Abrahamic Religions: Conflict or Coexistence”  
University Center Ballroom, 3:00p.m.

**Friday, November 30, 2007**

Women and Leadership: “The Struggle for Human Rights”  
University Center Ballroom, 1:00p.m.

