

# POLITICAL SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

Spring 2008  
Chair: Professor Axelrod

Department office: BLD 202  
Department phone: 877-4590

## **GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR**

The following students are expected to graduate this year: Michael Berthel, Debraj Broomes, Wanda Christophe, Maegan DelGuidice, Ivana Garbowski, John Gherlone Jr., Lauren Goldberg, Tricia Hardgrove, Pierre Henry, Setsuko Ishihara, Rochelle Jellig, Antoniya Kaneva, Amanda Knapp, Nathalie Nelson, Ashley Noveck, Regina Pakh, Anthony Rotundo, Oliver Skelding, Martha Sosnowski, Adaeze Udoji, Amanda Velez, and Marcin Zwolinski. We are proud of all of you and will miss. We wish you much success and look forward to learning your activities in the future.

The Political Science faculty strongly encourages students to take advantage of study abroad and internship programs. Overseas, there are excellent programs in Prague and Budapest, among others. The Provost offers a scholarship to study abroad for which students can compete. Domestically, the political science department has had great success sending our students to The Washington Center for an internship semester.

## **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 in Political Science, 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. Also, just for next year, if you are interested in doing the Washington internship in your senior year, you should take the required public policy seminar (429) given in Fall 2008 this year. Usually, it is offered in the spring semester, but the next time after Fall 2008 when it will be offered is not until Spring 2010. Please see Professor Axelrod if you have questions.

## **POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT AWARDS**

The recipients of these awards are announced at the annual Political Science Senior Dinner, To be held May 6. These honors are also showcased in the commencement program.

### **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 social and economic equality.

If you would like to apply, submit a brief letter with your name, address, phone number, and a description of activities undertaken both on and off campus, with dates of your association, positions held, as well as a list of at least three references. You may also nominate another student. Self or peer nomination. Deadline: March 15 Award: Monetary

### **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” or “A-.” Students may enter more than one paper. Self nomination. Deadline: March 15 Award: Monetary

### **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 and a book selected by the Political Science faculty. The recipient’s name is displayed on a plaque in the department office.

### **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. Students expected to receive this honor are: Debraj Broomes, Lauren Goldberg, Tricia Hardgrove, Antoniya Kaneva, Regina Pakh, Anthony Rotundo, Oliver Skelding, Martha Sosnowski, Adaeze Udoji, and Amanda Velez.

**Tricia Hardgrove** was designated Junior Fellow of the Golden of the Political and Social Sciences. She was selected because of her outstanding coursework, enthusiasm for social issues and her potential for making substantial contributions to social sciences in the future.

Wanda Christophe received Adelphi’s Black History Month Award. The award recognized outstanding leadership, service, and commitment to excellence that benefits and inspires the Adelphi community. It was awarded by the Student Government Association and the Center for Student Involvement.

## **POLITICAL SCIENCE ALUMNI: WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**

*If you would like to appear in future newsletters, please keep in touch.  
Let the department know what you are doing. We love hearing from our alumni!*

**Jonathan Chung (2003)** was accepted to Baruch's School of Public Affairs. He will begin his studies in the Fall.

**David Fuller (2006)** recently finished a job on Chris Dodd's presidential campaign. He was first a field/community organizer in New Hampshire throughout the summer and early fall, until he was reassigned to the Connecticut national headquarters. There, he engaged in political outreach and volunteer recruiting for the campaign, as well as helped the administrative and financial staff when they needed an extra body to compile FEC paperwork. David is taking some graduate courses at UCONN, and used the campaign as a means to provide some field research in electronic/online campaign politics in fundraising, voter outreach and media outreach for the graduate study. He recently became a member of his home town Democratic Committee in Stratford, CT and is acting as treasurer on a state senate campaign. David plans on attending graduate school full-time in the future.

**Christian Fundo (2007)** took the LSAT in September and scored extremely well. He applied to 14 schools. So far, Chris been accepted at University of Michigan, Duke, Cornell, Georgetown, Vanderbilt, Notre Dame and Washington and Lee. He has also been deferred at Harvard, Columbia and Chicago, and waitlisted at University of Pennsylvania. The other three schools (Yale, NYU and University of Virginia) have yet to contact him (as of February 8, 2008). He hopes to have made a decision about which law school to attend by the end of April. Chris currently works at Christo & Associates, P. C., which is a law firm that represents mostly Albanian immigrants in their asylum proceedings.

**Chantal Hamlin (2007)** is in her second semester of law school at Cardozo. This summer, she will be working at King & Spalding LLP – an Atlanta based firm, but she will be in their New York Office. She is a New York City Bar Diversity Fellow and one of three Cardozo students that were chosen as fellows for this program and given the opportunity to work in a law firm or corporation this summer.

**Vida Manavizadeh (2004)** is in nursing school at Oregon Health and Science University (OHSU) in Portland. She's been working for a lawyer in criminal defense (a public defender) for a year and a half.

**Marianne Perricone (2005)** continues to work at Fractured Atlas. She is hoping to go into international law, with a goal of finding a job at the United Nations.

**Chantel Peters (2001)** currently working as a Program Coordinator for NFL Pepsi Punt, Pass and Kick National Football League.

**Elvin Ramos (2007)** is enrolled in a doctorate program at St. Johns for Modern History and will be taking a qualifying exam on world modernization in October. He plans to graduate from St. John's University's Doctor of Arts Program in 2010. Currently, he is working full time at a not-for-profit organization focused on mental health research. The organization

provides scholarships and grants to scholars writing their dissertations on mental health. Elvin does development and research

**Irry Toh (2007)** is basically studying for the LSAT day and night these days. She registered for the June LSAT which is taking place in Singapore. After the exam, she is planning to work as a volunteer or some sort of secretary for one of the governing party's local offices where she lives. She might even consider going to Kuala Lumpur, which is the capital of Malaysia, to look for jobs related to NGO work.

**Ugo C. Ugeh (2006)** worked as a legal assistant at a Manhattan law firm for a year after graduation while he took LSAT and applied to law schools. He is currently in the second semester of his first year at Brooklyn Law School.

**Joseph Welsh (2007)** is currently attending NY Law.

**Lianne Wheeler (2007)** is currently attending NY Law.

## STUDENT SURVEY

### STUDENT SURVEY QUESTION

**In deciding which presidential candidate to support (in November) what factors are most important to you? Interviewer: Allen Louissant**

“It is important to me that the candidate I back supports universal health care, has a viable withdrawal plan to get out of Iraq, and a plan to work toward rebuilding and establishing important global allies.”

-Ashley Noveck, ‘08

“While I believe that the economy is most important, I also realize that there are a lot of other issues plaguing us. I'm looking for someone who takes a stand on the social issues and education, and who has the potential to realize that there ARE other problems besides those associated with the Iraq war and economy (even though THOSE are important).”

-Brian Hoyle, ‘10

“There are many things that I'm going to think about for this coming election such as the candidate's position on the economy, the war in Iraq, health care, and even education.”

-Michele Rosenblatt, ‘09

“I can't decide between Barack Obama or Hilary Clinton because they are both minorities in a sense. It is not often a woman or a black man get voted to office. For the most part I believe their issues are relatively the same. Either one of them getting elected makes a statement on its own because it shows diversity and that other minorities can strive for the same thing.”

-Lakeisha John, ‘09

“Factors that are important for me are health care, poverty, the economy, and the war in Iraq.”

-Yvonne Igbojekwe, ‘10

“Foreign policy, specifically the ability of a candidate to introduce a new image and modus operandi of U.S. diplomacy, which I think better serve our country’s interests. It is also important to have increased transparency in government or at least the executive.”

-Tricia Hardgrove, ‘08

“I am often asked...who am I going to vote for? The person almost 100% expects my answer to be Obama. Even though it is right, I am not voting for him just because he has been labeled the "black candidate." I am supporting Obama because he is a charismatic, international (his roots are all over the map) person who stands behind universal health care, and dedication to put an end to the hatred of America throughout the world, which is something I have personally experienced.”

- Emmanuel Hector, ‘10

## CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

### From Students

#### **Report from a Washington Intern Dan Cronin, Senior**

As I look out my window and see the steeples, apartments and hotels below, I think of where I was exactly one year ago. At twenty-two, I was the Grand Master of Kappa Sigma at Adelphi, Vice President of the campus Democrats with little more than a passion for the environment and politics. Though I may be a novice professionally, my experience in Washington has encouraged me in every way to pursue my career path in environmental law. In my last semester at Adelphi, I took the Public Policy Seminar with Professor Axelrod and chose to study the implementation of the 1990 amendments to the Clean Air Act with the plan of interning in Washington the subsequent fall.

My study of the Clean Air Act was quite broad and it couldn’t have possibly prepared me for working in the Radiation Protection Division. From an outsider’s perspective, one may assume that because the EPA is a governmental agency, there are unimaginably daunting tasks on a daily basis. For the most part, that isn’t the case. While it may be true that it has its bureaucratic quirks, the EPA is run much like any other hierarchical business from the inside.

For my internship last fall, I was situated between experts in dosimetry and health physicists that specialized in radiation exposure. I know what you might be thinking! “How and why did you choose to intern at an office that has absolutely nothing to do with your chosen major or experience?” Quite honestly, I had the choice of several other offices and this seemed to be the one I knew the least about and I wanted a challenge. The experience surely paid off, as I now know a great deal about radiation; something I only studied scantily in high school. Our government has given me the ability to impart infinite wisdom upon Political Science majors such as: If you were to hold up a Geiger Counter up to your throat as you eat a banana, the potassium in the banana gives off just enough radiation to register on the counter. Although radiation in such small amounts can’t hurt you, it was enlightening (and frightening!) to learn about the radiation that *can*.

One of the first projects I was tasked with was to organize materials that would be used by emergency responders in the case of a dirty bomb attack. I was surprised at the time that such a substantial project was left almost entirely in my hands but a great deal of faith must have been invested in me. Once it was completed, the guide was used effectively during an official terrorism-readiness exercise called TOPOFF 4 and should be in use for several years to come.

In the last eight years, the EPA has become an underfunded and underutilized agency in many respects. Because of the lack of incentives for young students to work at the EPA, there is increasingly a 'brain-drain' among the ranks. If the matter of funding is addressed effectively, the problems of the coming years will be addressed by forward-thinking research in areas of uncertainty.

A great deal of those who are employed at the EPA are lawyers. The EPA is in charge of enforcing regulations, so there are plenty of attorneys on call. I've gotten a chance to meet with several of them and had wonderful conceptual conversations that I won't delve into here. In sum, the agency has done more with less in the last eight years than even the Feds thought possible. For those of us who care deeply about the environment and understand its permanent symbiosis with human welfare, the EPA has proved to be a wonderful place to work.

Washington is an ever-evolving city without one defining culture. The region has been steadily growing over the last ten years and new housing is readily available for those of us who find Long Island intolerable, too pricy or a combination of the two. The District of Columbia was a planned city, so everything is easily navigable by walking or the color-coded Metro. This is in stark contrast to those of you who are familiar with parts of Queens or south Brooklyn.

Most jewels of Washington can't be found in a few weeks. There are plenty of malls and shopping areas, but what gives Washington its character is the interplay between the city's volatile past and its evolving present. I live in the financial/lobbying district of the city, just two blocks from the infamous K Street. About ten blocks northward, the scene evolves from uptight (bourgeois?) to relaxed (proletariat?) businesses and bars. At night, U Street is littered with smatterings of the homeless, wonks, hipsters and occasionally, the Bush twins. Perhaps the best part of Washington is to know that every young person here is, in some facet, working to better their country. Whether you agree with each interpretation of 'better' is entirely up to you. That youthful vigor, which adds to Washington's charm, is an element many major cities sorely lack. Everyone I've met here has a business card and a story. With my feet firmly planted in the ground, I can at least say I have the beginnings of the latter, if not the former just yet.

## **Report from Anthony Rotundo West Point Conference**

During the fall semester, I had the honor of representing Adelphi University at the annual West Point Conference on U.S. affairs. The conference is mainly held to not only allow students from numerous different backgrounds to meet and discuss their ideas, but also to give students an inside peak into the world of world policy making. The conference is structured around an important issue that faces the United States. The issue that we were asked to look at in 2007 was America's role in the world in the twenty-first century. There were numerous topic tables that addressed issues from U.S. relations with Western Europe to how the U.S. should foster nation building or control the spread of weapons of mass destruction. Students were asked to pick a topic that they would be comfortable discussing with their peers at the conference. I, for example, chose the Western Europe table because I felt I had enough knowledge of the area to discuss U.S. relations.

The structure of each day was very intense, but also very enjoyable. Though the main crux of the conference was to work on teams and develop policy papers that were presented on the final day. Discussion was interspersed with presentations by many highly decorated military and foreign relations personnel. I had the honor of meeting retired General Abizaid, General Corps from the Philippines, Major Metcalf (who is employed as a go between for the EU and NATO), and many other distinguished guests. Evenings were reserved for banquets, receptions, and getting to know other students. Finally, the conference set aside an hour for students to explore the West Point campus, take photographs of the buildings, or enjoy their library or gym facilities.

I had a great time at the conference. The conference is held during the most beautiful time of year for West Point, because the campus is surrounded by trees that are changing for the season. Discussions at my topic table lead to debates and exchanges of ideas that enriched the education that I received in class. I made friends on this trip that I'm sure to keep in contact with as I grow older, and I've met and talked with important officials that gave me first hand experiences on the dangers facing the United States in the future. It is an experience that I will cherish, and one that I wish I could repeat. I thank Adelphi University for giving me the chance to represent them at such an important event, and I congratulate Adelphi's future choice on being selected. Don't let this opportunity pass.

## **FACULTY NEWS**

**Professor Regina Axelrod** lectured at the University of Economics, from October 10-18, 2007, as part of her Fullbright Senior Special Award. She wrote a critique of the writings of Czech President Vaclav Klaus that will appear in the Czech weekly paper LISTY.

**Professor Margaret Gray's** research on New York farmworkers received media attention last semester—including *The New York Times*, *The Daily News*, *The Times Herald Record*, Univision radio, and WAMC (an upstate NPR affiliate). She also saw the publication of "Mechanics of Empowerment: Migrant Farmworker Advocacy," in the book *Global Migration, Cultural Transformation, and Social Change*, edited by Emory Eliot, Jasmine Payne, and Patricia Ploesch (Palgrave-MacMillan Press). Professor Gray was elected the secretary/treasurer of the Labor Studies section of the Latin American Studies Association

and presented her research for a community audience at Just Food's Regional Summit in December. She is now in her fourth semester at Adelphi and is enjoying getting to know the political science students better. She's pleased to see so many familiar faces in the classroom.

**Professor Katie Laatikainen** was invited by the German Council on Foreign Relations to speak at a conference on The European Union and the United Nations Reform Process on October 6, 2007 in Berlin. Professor Laatikainen conceptualized a variety of UN roles and the prospects and problems of EU support for each. In November, Professor Laatikainen served as one of three members of the National Screening Committee that reviewed applications for the Fulbright programs in Scandinavia.

**Professor Traci Levy** has been involved in Adelphi's collaborative projects for social justice. She served on the coordinating committee of Adelphi's Fall 2007 Women, Peace, and Justice Project and is currently serving on the coordinating committee of the Spring 2008-Fall 2008 ICAN Project (Imagine Change, Act Now). Prof. Levy also serves on Adelphi's Diversity Committee. Her current research, with Prof. Deborah Little (Sociology), explores the tensions between a feminist ethic of care and disability studies. Prof. Levy continues to support Adelphi's Gender Studies minor. She is also the faculty advisor for Adelphi's chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha (the national political science honor society) and the Adelphi Democrats.

**Professor Lawrence Sullivan** is working as a co-translator of a Chinese novel entitled "Feathered Serpent" (*Yu She*) by the prominent Chinese novelist Ms. Xu Xiaobin, which will be published in August by Simon & Schuster. The co-translators included Mr. John Gibbon a noted translator of many works of Chinese fiction and the grandson of Edward Gibbon the author of the classic work "The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire." In March, Professor Sullivan will read excerpts from the novel as part of the faculty "Works-in-Progress" seminar. On February 20, Professor Sullivan read from his latest co-translated work, "Zhou Enlai: The Last Perfect Revolutionary" which was published in October 2007 by Public Affairs and which has been reviewed in such publications as "Time Magazine on Line," "Foreign Affairs," and the "Daily Telegraph" in the U.K.

**Dr. Hugh A. Wilson, Professor Emeritus**, worked closely with Eliz Alahverdian, Assistant Art Collection Curator of Adelphi University, in presenting the art exhibit "Weapons, Tools, and Rituals: A Look at the Frederick and Claire Mebel Collection of African Art" which was shown in the University Center Gallery between January 21-February 27, 2008. Dr. Wilson also wrote the introduction to the exhibit.

### **Adjunct faculty**

**Professor Olena Tregub** is a third year doctoral student of the Ukrainian Academy of Science, where she is doing her research on mass media transformations in post-communist countries. Olena holds an MA degree in Political Science from the Central European University in Budapest and a BA degree from Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in Kyiv. Olena has work experience in journalism and political analysis. She worked as a political observer for the Internews in Ukraine and was employed as a political expert by one of the Ukrainian political parties. Olena continues to contribute articles for various media as a freelance journalist and to prepare reports for the National Radio Company of Ukraine. In 2007 Olena had an internship at the United Nations in New York.

**Ambassador Martin Palouš** was appointed Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the United States by Czech President Vaclav Havel in the summer of 2001. He received a RNDr. degree (Doctor of Natural Sciences in chemistry from Charles University, Prague, in 1973, and went on to study philosophy and social sciences (graduating in 1977). He has also studied law (1996-1999).

Mr. Palouš was one of the first signatories of Charter 77 and served as spokesman for this dissident human rights group in 1986. A founding member of the Civic Forum (November 1989), he was elected to the Federal Assembly in 1990 and became a member of its Foreign Affairs Committee. He joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Czechoslovakia as adviser to Minister Dienstbier and was Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs from October 1990 to October 1992.

Mr. Palouš has held a number of teaching positions at Charles University, since 1990. He became a member of the Faculty of Social Sciences (Foreign Relations Division) in 1994 and served for some time as the Faculty's Vice-Dean. In 1993, he joined the Centre for Theoretical Studies (a research centre run jointly by Charles University and the Czech Academy of Sciences, headed by Ivan M. Havel). He has lectured extensively in the United States. Until 1998 he was also active in various non-governmental organizations (Chairman of the Czech Helsinki Committee, Co-Chairman of the Helsinki Citizens Assembly). In October 1998, he became Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic.

Mr. Palouš is the author of numerous publications, including the chapter on the Czech Republic in the European Commission publication *Democratization in Central and Eastern Europe*, "Totalitarianism and Authoritarianism", in the *Encyclopedia of Violence, Peace and Conflict* (1999) and "Between Idealism and Realism: Reflections on the Political Landscape of Postcommunism", in *Between Past and Future: "The Revolutions of 1989 and their Aftermath"* (2000). He translates the works of Hannah Arendt.

#### **Student Work**

Goldberg, Lauren and Kenza Hadj-Moussa. "Heavily Impacted Indian Lands Districts and AYP." (Washington, DC: The National Association of Federally Impacted Schools, 2008.) <http://nafisd.org/IndianLandsAYPSurvey.pdf>

**POLITICAL SCIENCE SPRING 2008 LECTURES**  
(Political Science Majors Must Attend One)

**Monday, February 11, 2008**

David Engel- "The Frank Family Between Holland and America"  
University Center Ballroom, 7:00p.m.

**Wednesday, February 20, 2008**

"Human Rights, Politics, and Art: An Evening of Expression with Chris Abani"  
University Center Ballroom, 7:00p.m.

**Wednesday, February 27, 2008**

Lecture by Domestic Workers United  
UC 203, 1:00p.m.-2:15p.m.

**Wednesday, February 27, 2008**

"An Evening with Al Sharpton Perspectives on Leadership and Activism"  
University Center Ballroom, 7:00p.m.

**Thursday, March 6, 2008**

Terje Roed-Larsen, President, International Peace Academy- "The Changing Geopolitical  
Landscape of the Middle East: Implications for Diplomacy"  
University Center Ballroom, 3:00p.m.

**Thursday, March 20, 2008**

Ambassador from Kenya to the UN, H.E. Zachary Muburi-Muita- "Economic and Sustainable  
Development: A Challenge for Africa"  
University Center Ballroom, 12:00p.m.

**Thursday, May 1, 2008**

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the United Nations- H.E. Mr.  
Jean-Marc Hoscheit  
HHE 215, 3:00p.m. Reception to follow in UC Charter Room

**Thursday, May 15, 2008**

Dr. Kenneth Prewitt- "Immigration: History, Myths, and Lessons for the Present"  
University Center Ballroom, 9:00a.m.-1:00p.m.