



# Political Science Happenings

August 29, 2014

Issue 1 2014-2015

Political Science  
Faculty and Staff,  
2013-2014

**Prof. Michael Morgan**—  
Thomas 315 (ext. 4660)  
michael.morgan@marietta.edu (focus on international relations, political science methods).

**Dr. Mark Schaefer, Chair**—  
Thomas 314 (ext. 4801)  
mark.schaefer@marietta.edu (focus on international relations).

**Dr. Mike Tager**—Thomas 308  
(ext. 4898)  
mike.tager@marietta.edu (focus on political theory, U.S. Politics, comparative politics).

**Dr. Xiaoxiong Yi**—Thomas 105 (ext. 4921)  
yix@marietta.edu (Director of the China Institute).

**Ms. Paula Lewis**—Thomas 122 (ext 4633)  
lewisp@marietta.edu (administrative assistant).

## Inside this issue:

Model UN	2
All Scholars Day	2
Honors	2
Internships	3
Study Abroad	3
Alumni News	4

Visit us on the web at: [http://www.marietta.edu/Academics/undergraduate\\_degrees/political\\_science.html](http://www.marietta.edu/Academics/undergraduate_degrees/political_science.html)

## Marietta College

### Welcome Professor Morgan!

**Michael Morgan** graduated from Marietta College in 2010 with a BA in Political Science. He is currently finishing his doctorate at the University of Kentucky. His research agenda focuses on international conflict and conflict management strategies. His dissertation investigates factors that influ-

ence cooperation and collaboration in United Nations peacekeeping operations. This semester he is teaching Issues in International politics, U.S. Foreign Policy, and Political Behavior. We're delighted to have one of our former students become a colleague!

### Leader in Residence

This year's inaugural Leader in Residence, **Kathleen Reddy-Smith**, is a retired diplomat with the U.S. foreign service, and a MC alumna. She will be team-teaching this fall's Middle East Politics course with **Dr. Schaefer** and introducing students to writing and thinking for

the Foreign Service and other professional organizations.

Welcome back to MC Ms. Reddy-Smith!



### Moot Court

Based on their success at the Midwest Regionals last November, the team of **CJ Englert** and **Jessica Johnson** participated in the National Championship Tournament of the American Collegiate Moot Court Association, held January 17-18 at the Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at the University of Arizona. They attended nationals with **Dr. Craig**, the Moot Court instructor and coach.



Their hypothetical case dealt with both 4<sup>th</sup> Amendment search and seizure rights and presidential war powers.

## Pre-Law

Considering law school after Marietta? If so, please see the MC Pre-Law advisor **Dr. Schaefer**. He can help you navigate the pre-law process whether you're a senior preparing for the LSAT or a first year student wondering where to begin.

## Washington Semester

Interested in studying at American University for a semester and getting an internship in Washington DC? Please contact **Dr. Tager** for more information about the Washington Semester Program (WSP) and see also [www.american.edu/spex/washingtonsemester/](http://www.american.edu/spex/washingtonsemester/). Last spring **Eric Miranda** attended the Foreign Policy track of the WSP.

**Pizza and****Politics****The Political****Science****Department****sponsors a series****of forums on****issues of current****interest with free****pizza and soda for****attendees. If you****have ideas for****Pizza and Politics****events, please****contact the series****coordinator, Dr.****Schaefer****Dr. Yi's****Newspaper****Column****Dr. Xiaoxiong Yi****publishes a bi****weekly,****regionally****syndicated****column about****international****affairs. Locally,****The Marietta****Times runs his****column in their****weekend****edition.****Model United Nations**

The MC Model United Nations club is open to all students interested in learning more about global issues by attending simulated UN sessions where students role play diplomats from different countries. We're organizing to attend the

Lake Erie International Model United Nations conference (LEIMUN) in early November. Please contact **Michael Fahy**, or one of the co-faculty advisors, Drs. **Schaefer** and **Tager**, for more information.



Eleven students and Drs. Schaefer

Left to Right: Michael Fahy, Ed Harvey, Chanel Cornett, Taylor Myers, Paul Bieniek, Bryan Murray, Alex Boggs, Anissa Hiralall, Kurt Fire, Sean Kuhn, Ariann Barile

and Tager attended the Dayton Model United Nations Conference January 31–February 1. Students served on the following committees: Security Council—France: **Taylor Myers**; Pakistan: **Bryan Murray**. Simulation Security Council—France: **Michael Fahy**; Pakistan: **Sean Kuhn**. ECOSOC—France: **Channel Cornett**; Pakistan: **Alex Boggs**; Albania: **Ariann Barile**. UN Habitat—France: **Paul Bieniek**; Pakistan: **Ed Harvey**; El Salvador: **Anissa Hiralall**.

**All Scholars Day**

On All Scholars Day, several students presented their research projects directed by **Dr. Schaefer**: **Michael Faye**, “U.S. Military Aid in the War on Terror”; **Kurt Fire**, “The Factors of Arms Creation”; **Jason Hoskins**, “Immigration and Foreign Policy”; **Sean Kuhn**, “

Loan Approval and Conditionality: Is There an “I” in IMF?”; and **Bryan Murray**, “Do Small States Balance in the Same Manner as Large States?” In addition, **CJ Englert**, **Jessica Johnson**, **Zach Eddy**, and **Josh Counselman** reprised their Moot Court arguments under the direction and questioning

of **Dr. Craig**. On behalf of the Political Science Capstone students, **Jessica Johnson** explained the group project titled “Laughterhouse-Five, or the Comedians’ Crusade: A Study of the Effects of Satirical Media on Self-Reported Political Ideology.”

**Honors**

On April 23, 2014, six students were inducted into Pi Sigma Alpha, the national Political Science honorary society: **Danie Chiridon**, **Michael Fahy**, **Kurt Fire**, **Jason Hoskins**, **Eric Miranda**, and **Taylor Myers**. Please contact **Dr. Tager** for more information about eligibility for Pi Sigma Alpha.

**Josh Counselman** was inducted into Phi Beta Kap-

pa, Marietta’s most prestigious honor society. He also received the Political Science Capstone Award for best senior research project. In the spring he completed an Honors Thesis under **Dr. Schaefer**’s direction titled “Breaking States: The Effect of Foreign Intervention on Political Stability.”

**Jessica Johnson** won the Jewett Prize for her speech

at graduation titled “How Do You Measure Your Time at Marietta College?” She also won the Delta Upsilon Good Citizenship Award, given by the Faculty Council to the graduating senior who best embodies the traits of scholarship, leadership, character, and participation in extra-curricular activities.

## Internships

Last Spring **Zach Eddy** interned at the Marietta City Law Office, **Chanell Cornett** interned at the Marietta Municipal Court, and **Eric Miranda** interned at the Office of the National Ombudsman of the Small Business Administration in Washington DC.

This past summer **Bryan Murray** and **Taylor Myers** interned on the Jennifer Garrison for Congress Campaign in Marietta, **Ed Harvey** interned at Mesir-ow Financial in Chicago, **Danie Chirdon** interned at the Marietta Municipal Court, and **Kurt Fire** interned at the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority.

Over the summer **Chanell Cornett** interned with the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) in

Washington DC in the office of Congresswoman Marcia L. Fudge, Ohio 11th district. She writes that she “assisted staff with research, including writing a report on gun violence in Cleveland, and researching Ohio heroin statistics used in a House bill introduced by Congresswoman Fudge, as well as drafted letters to constituents, attended briefings and hearings, including one by Attorney General Eric Holder on mandatory minimum sentences, and led Capitol tours for constituents. With the CBCF part of my internship, I attended several lectures from Congressional Black Caucus mem-



bers, graduate schools, and federal agencies in Washington DC. In my two month internship I enhanced my knowledge on politics, gained meaningful relationships and knowledge on working in an office setting, and this was one of the best experiences I've had in college thus far.”

Over the summer **Michael Fahy** interned with the State Department at the US Consulate General in Chengdu, China. He writes that “my main posting was within the Consulate's Regional



Security Office, though I also volunteered with other sections, helping Foreign Service officers with public outreach events, visa application processing, and political report research and writing. [I] ... assisted the regional security officer and his assistant with efforts to repatriate convicted American felons, visa fraud investigations, and regular security report writing for the Consulate's various public and political events. Additionally, I led the chartering process for the Chengdu chapter of the US DoS's private-public security cooperative, the Overseas Security Advisory Council. My experience was an invaluable introduction to government employment and to a life in the US Foreign Service.”

## Study Abroad

**Alina Kielbasa** studied at the University of the South Pacific-Fiji and in Tuvalu last spring.

**Danie Chirdon** studied at Helsinki University last spring. She writes that “I lived in the heart of downtown where I was able to experience big city life. I chose Finland because my family is from there



and I was able to meet family I had only seen on Facebook, some didn't speak English! My favorite class was War and War Crimes focusing on international tribunals. I also took a language class, Finnish history classes and EU economics classes. Politically speaking it was a very interesting time to be in Finland with their history with Russia. Events in Ukraine had a big impact on Finnish politics. The best aspects of studying abroad were making

friends from all over the world, having my mother come visit me and finding my grandmother's house.”

On his trip to China this past summer as a delegate to the 2014 US-China Student Summit, **Kurt Fire** travelled in Beijing and Shanghai, and got to meet personally with the US Ambassador to China, Max Baucus. Aside from visits to landmarks like the Temple of Heaven, the Forbidden

City, and the Great Wall, he had interesting encounters with the Beijing subway system, roast duck neck on a stick, and a Yuan Wang-class missile tracking ship.



## Political Science Alumni News

**Josh Counselman** (14) is attending the PhD program in Political Science at the University of Pittsburgh this fall.

**Zach Eddy** (14) is attending law school at Michigan State University this fall.

**C.J. Englert** (14) plans to attend Office Candidate School in the U.S. Navy.

**Lilien Gil-Nicolas** (14) is teaching English in Madrid Spain this year.

**Jason Hoskins** (14) is attending law school at Capital University this fall.

**Jessica Johnson** (14) is working in the Communications Office of Ohio Governor John Kasich. She previously interned there one summer.

**Bryan Murray** (14) is working for the national office of Alpha Tau Omega in chapter services, visiting colleges and consulting with local ATO chapters on how to improve their leadership.

**Jessica Herron** (13) moved to Malawi (Africa) in August to accept a position as the International Volunteer Coordinator for HELP Malawi Children. She will also run the organization's after-school English language programs. Jessica interned with the organization during her junior year.

**Lauren Knight** (13) is entering the Masters of Public Administration program at the University of Akron this fall. She finished her first year of law school there, and the University of Akron has a special dual degree program that will enable Lauren to finish both degrees simultaneously.

**Ben Reese** (13) worked as a law clerk in the Special Proceedings Division of the United States Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia this past summer. He conducted research for and helped draft the U.S. responses to collateral attacks on convictions, including petitions for habeas corpus, and motions for redress and a new trial. He is now in his second year at the University of Michigan Law School. He returned to MC last spring to speak to pre-law students about the law school application process, as well as about law school itself.

**Laura Finck** (12) completed her Masters in Political Science at the University of New Mexico.

**Phil York** (10) is now the Development Director of the Waco Texas office of Habitat for Humanity. He is tasked with maintaining a budget of close to \$2 million, and also overseeing special events and other public outreach programs.

**Will Ritter** (09) is now chairman of

the Killingly (Connecticut) Republican Town Committee and a member of the town's Public Safety Commission. He narrowly lost a race for town council in 2013 but plans to run again in 2015. He works at General Dynamics Electric Boat in Groton Connecticut.

**Erin Todd** (09) is Assistant Director of Financial Aid at Ohio University.

**Alie Ratie** (07) works as a Human Resources Specialist at the National Institutes of Health. She is now based in Columbus Ohio.

**Brandon Donelson-Sims** (06) is attending the PhD program at American University in International Relations with a concentration in Peace and Conflict Studies.

**Cory Medina** (04) is Northeast Regional Director for Working America, the AFL-CIO's non-union worker group.

**Jimmy Klepek** (02) is an Assistant Visiting Professor in the Department of Environmental Studies at Rollins College in Florida. He received his PhD in Geography and Development at the University of Arizona in 2011, and previously obtained an MA in Latin American Studies from the University of Arizona.

### Marietta College

Department of Political Science  
Thomas Hall 122  
215 Fifth Street

Phone: 740-376-4633

Fax: 740-376-4932

E-mail: [tagerm@marietta.edu](mailto:tagerm@marietta.edu)

Have items of interest to the political science community at MC? Please let Dr. Tager ([tagerm@marietta.edu](mailto:tagerm@marietta.edu), x4898, Thomas Hall 106) know. This newsletter is published twice a year, or as the news warrants.

