



Political Science Happenings

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Issue 1

Political Science Faculty and Staff, 2011-2012

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Marietta College

Welcome Dr. Craig!

Dr. McKinzie Craig graduated from Texas A&M University in August 2012 with a PhD in political science. Her fields are American politics and political methodology with a substantive focus in judicial politics. Her teaching interests include constitutional law and constitutional development, American government, American political institutions and behavior, and political methodology

(including formal theory, qualitative and quantitative methods). Dr. Craig's research interests center around how political institutions develop and respond to constraints. She is particularly interested in explaining why the Supreme Court adheres to previous legal decisions when it is not politically advantageous. Beyond her teaching and research interests, Dr. Craig is passionate about politics, baking, and football (individually or all three together!).

Pre Law

Considering law school after Marietta? If so please see our 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. **Dr. Craig** will be teaching a Moot Court course annually starting

Fall 2012. Visiting Professor Jingjing Xie from the University of International Relations in Beijing, China is teaching "Introduction to Chinese Law" this fall. It is a two-credit course that begins September 24 on M-W-F 12:00-12:50.

Generous Gift

Kevin O'Neill (12) donated a generous gift to help support the new Moot Court program run by **Dr. Craig**. He initially attended Marietta in the 1980s, and finished his degree requirements to

graduate this past May. He owns and runs the O'Neill Consulting Group, a successful executive search firm in Wakefield, RI.

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). **Luke Badaczewski** attended the Transforming Communities program last spring.

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**. There will be one addressing Constitution Day in September.

Moving on news

Dan Lehman took a position at Evolution Marketing in Blue Bell, PA. The firm conducts surveys, focus groups, and research for health care organizations and firms (yes, knowing research methods can get you a job!).

Marie Courtemanche taught last year at Providence College, and took a visiting teaching position at Texas Christian University for this academic year.

Internships

In the spring, **Andrew Gorman** interned at Southeastern Ohio Legal Services in Marietta, an agency that represents indigent clients in civil litigation. **Cheska Van Gundy** interned at the Columbus office of U.S. Congressman Pat Tiberi. **Alexis Wyatt** interned at the Probation Department

of the Marietta Municipal Court, working mainly with Judge Janet Dyar-Welch. In the summer, **Michael Fahy** interned with Pennsylvania State Representative Jesse White in his Cecil PA legislative office, **Sallie Hauser** interned with the Josh Mandel U.S. Senatorial campaign, and **Jessie**

Johnson interned in Ohio Governor John Kasich's communications department in Columbus.

Please contact any political science professor for information about, or supervision of, your for-credit internships.

Notable Student Activities

Laura Finck presented her capstone paper "Potential Causes of Revolution" at the *All Politics Is Local* undergraduate research conference at Walsh University in Canton last April. This past summer **Ben Reese** took courses in "Legal History" and

"Comparative Law of the UK and US" at the University of Cambridge. Ben's study in England was sponsored by the McDonough Leadership Program. **Laura Finck**, **Sara Harp**, and **Krissy Sutton** participated in M.C.s' annual dinosaur

fossil expedition last May in Utah. This past summer **Nicole Holstein** and **Sara Harp** worked in Marietta as VISTA Associates at Harvest of Hope and Ely Chapman respectively.

Honors

On April 25, 2012, ten students were inducted into Pi Sigma Alpha, the national Political Science honorary society:

Thomas Daniels, Caleb Ellis, Sarah Griffin, Jessica Herron, Dawn Holstein, Abby Klicker, Luke Langdon, Jessica Penny, Audrey Ross, and Marianne Seal. Please contact **Dr. Tager** for more information about eligibility for Pi Sigma Alpha. **Laura Finck, Sara Harp, and Emma Vierheller** were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, Marietta's most prestigious honor society.

Laura Finck won the Asa Shinn McCoy Award, a fellowship to help a summa or magna cum laude graduate attend graduate school. **Emma Vierheller** won the Alumni Association Community Service Award, which recognizes the graduating senior deemed to have contributed most significantly to the community. **Laura Finck** and **Sara Harp** won the Sherrill Cleland Prize in Leadership, recognizing the outstanding graduating McDonough Scholars.



L to R: Nicole Holstein, Thomas Daniels, Jessica Penny, Sarah Griffin, Audrey Ross and Caleb Ellis.

Political Science Alumni News

Thomas Daniels (12) is attending the Master in Fine Arts program in Acting at Ohio University (he double majored in Theater).

Laura Finck (12) is attending the Doctoral program in Political Science at the University of New Mexico.

Sara Harp (12) is attending the Masters program in Higher Education at Ohio University.

Nicole Holstein (12) is attending the Masters program in Environmental Science at American University (she double majored in Environmental Studies).

Krissy Sutton (12) is attending the University of Akron Law School.

Emma Vierheller (12) is working for Teach For America as a 10th grade geometry teacher in Milwaukee (she double majored in Mathematics).

Terrance Wallace (12) is returning to complete a double major in history this fall.

Matt Hickman (11) is entering West Virginia University Law School this fall.

Megan Patsch (11) is working for the Girl Scouts of Western Ohio in a position recruiting and managing volunteers. She is currently weighing her graduate school and career options, including reactivating her Peace Corps application.

Seen at graduation in May: **Yue Wang** (Luna) (11) is in the second year of a Masters program in Asian Studies at George Washington University, and planning on writing her thesis this year on Sino-Japanese relations; **Tianqi Xu** (Sean) (11) is in the second year of a Masters program in Public Policy at the University of Chicago; **Xiuye Zhao** (Tony) (Dec. 10) is in the second year of a Masters program in International Relations at George Washington University, and has a publication forthcoming

in the *American Intelligence Journal* titled "Chinese Perceptions of the U.S. Strategic Position in East Asia"; **Amelia Bean-DeFlumer** (10) is in her third year of law school at the Ohio State University, and worked for the Ohio Public Defender's Office in Columbus this past summer.

Michael Morgan (10) has been a Teaching Assistant for several classes, and is teaching his own political science course for the first time this fall at the University of Kentucky. His Ph.D. dissertation focuses on military structures and how they influence battlefield efficiency in unilateral and multilateral scenarios.

Melissa Varga (10) started the Masters program in Political Management at George Washington University last fall, and has been interning at The Angerholzer Team, a campaign fundraising organization.

Phil York (10) received his Masters of Public Administration and Service from Texas A&M University last spring, and took a job as the Grants and Contracts Manager at the Bryan-College Station (TX) Habitat for Humanity organization.

Jakob Loukas (09) is now a Mexico Country Assistant at the U.S. Department of State. He received his MA in U.S. Foreign Policy at American University in 2011.

Leanne McCullough (09) took a job last winter as a Research Analyst at the Republican National Committee in Washington DC. She is responsible for analyzing the regional effects of federal policy in 18 battleground states. She received her MA in Applied Government at American University in 2011.

Britanny Saunier (09) is now Program Assistant at the Partnership for Food Safety Education, a non-profit organization dedicated to reducing food borne illness, while getting her

MPA at American University.

Kristen Bird (07) will finish her Masters in Environmental Studies at the University of Pennsylvania this December. She is in the midst of a six month internship with Aramark, a large food service and event company, where she is addressing the company's food waste problem.

Rachel Long (07) is entering the University of Akron Law School. For the first year she will attend the evening program and continue her current job in logistics.

Sarah Smith (07) graduated from Capital University Law School last May.

Craig Sundstrom (07) now works as a Legislative Associate at the National Governors Association in Washington DC.

Meghan Auker (06) took a job last year as a market reporter for Construction Software Technology in Ohio, a position that involves internet-based research for software construction professionals. She formerly worked for U.S. Congressman Bill Foster (IL).

Brandon Donelson-Sims (06) is teaching at Satya Wacana University in Salatiga, Indonesia on behalf of the Mennonite Central Committee, a Christian relief, development and peace agency. He previously earned a MA in Conflict Resolution from Antioch University.

Loren Genson (06) is a city government reporter at the *Chillicothe Gazette* (OH). She double majored in Journalism.

Dawn (Story) Rauch (03) is the Director of Planning and Development for Washington-Morgan County Community Action. She was interviewed in the May 12, 2012 edition of the *Marietta Times* about the Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP) that her agency administers.

Ashli (Petty) Diamond (02) is the Washington County Director of Victim Assistance, and also serves as the legal advocate for EVE, the local women's shelter. She was profiled in the April 30, 2012 edition of the *Marietta Times*.

Pat Dutton (02) is Deputy Director of the Office of Illicit Finance at the U.S. Department of Treasury in Washington DC. He formerly worked at the Defense Intelligence Agency.

Eric Gustafson (97) is now Director of Development and Alumni Relations at Framingham State University in Massachusetts. He formerly held a similar position at Anna Maria College.

Dr. Yi's Newspaper Column

Dr. Xiaoxiong Yi publishes a biweekly, regionally syndicated column about international affairs. Locally, *The Marietta Times* runs his column in their weekend edition.

Marietta College

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



Visit us on the web at: http://www.marietta.edu/Academics/undergraduate_degrees/political_science.html

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 Model United Nations (LEIMUN) conference in Cleveland November 8-10, 2012. This fall there is a one-credit Model UN prep course for those attending LEIMUN taught on Thursdays at 4:00-4:50. Please contact **Michael Fahy**, **Eric Miranda**, **Kurt Fire**, or one of the co-faculty advisors, Drs. **Schaefer** and **Tager**, for more information.

The Dayton Model United Nations Conference (DAYMUNC), held February 3-4, 2012, was at-

tended by nine students and **Dr. Schaefer**. **Eric Miranda** represented the U.S. on the Simulated Security Council (a crisis scenario in the South China Sea), **Michael Fahy** represented the U.S. on the Security Council, **Johnie Ferrell** represented the U.S. in the General Assembly, **Laura Finck** represented the U.S. on the UN Economic Commission for Europe, **Kurt Fire** represented Spain in the General Assembly, **Emma Vierheller** represented Spain on the UN Economic Commission for Europe, **Andrew Gorman** represented the Czech Republic in the General Assembly, **Sean Kuhn** represented the Czech Republic on the UN Economic Commission for Europe, and **Donald Keefe** represented Romania on the UN Economic Commission for Europe. **Eric**

Miranda won an Honorable Mention award for his representation of the U.S. The accompanying photo shows some of the students outside during a fire alarm at the Dayton Grand Hotel (formerly the Doubletree).



Emma Vierheller, Johnie Ferrell, Laura Finck, Donald Keefe, Andrew Gorman, and Eric Miranda

Faculty Professional Activities

Dr. Craig presented two papers at the annual Midwest Political Science Association Conference in Chicago in April 2012: "Stare Decisis, Strategic Interpretation and the Federal Judicial Hierarchy," and with Charles Arvin and Nicholas Conway, "Statutory Interpretation and the Rule of Law: Understanding the Role of Precedent and Politics in Statutory Enforcement." She successfully defended her dissertation "Legal Doctrine and Self Imposed Norms: Examining the Politics of Stare Decisis" last May.

She also received the 2012 Distinguished Graduate Student Award from the Association of Former Students at Texas A&M University for outstanding contributions in teaching and research, and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa.

Dr. Schaefer presented a paper co-authored with Dr. John Poffenbarger of Wheeling Jesuit University titled "Looking for Bloc-Led Soft Balancing: BRICS vs. MERCOSUR Voting Behavior" at the annual Interna-

tional Studies Association Conference in San Diego in April 2012. He also directed the two week China Institute seminar program for a visiting group of students from the University International Relations in Beijing. The focus of the seminar was on US foreign policy, international politics, and political economy. Students did group research projects on controversies in Sino-U.S. relations.