

# POLITICAL SCIENCE

## HAPPENINGS

Issue 1

September 1, 2010

### Political Science Faculty and Staff, 2010-2011

**Dr. Marie Courtemanche**—Thomas 315 (ext. 4660) [mcc017@marietta.edu](mailto:mcc017@marietta.edu) (focus on U.S. politics, public opinion, methodology, political psychology, media and politics).

**Dr. Mark Schaefer**—Thomas 314 (ext. 4801) [mark.schaefer@marietta.edu](mailto:mark.schaefer@marietta.edu) (focus on international relations).

**Dr. Mike Tager**—Thomas 106 (ext. 4898) [mike.tager@marietta.edu](mailto:mike.tager@marietta.edu) (focus on political theory, constitutional law, comparative politics).

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

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

### Welcome Dr. Courtemanche!

**Dr. Courtemanche** joins us this year to teach courses in U.S. politics. She has been teaching at Stony Brook University, where she won a teaching award. She recently defended her dissertation, which examines how self- and group-interest affect attitudes toward immigration.

### 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.



### 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.

### 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**.

### Model UN Club Organizes for Year

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. If interested, please sign up for POLS 194 on Thursdays at 4:00-4:50. For more information, please contact **Emily Davis** ([end001@marietta.edu](mailto:end001@marietta.edu)), or **Drs. Schaefer** or **Tager**.

### Internships

Over the summer, **Caleb Ellis** interned at Congresswoman Shelley Moore Capito's Charleston office, **Jaclyn Peters** interned at the Parkersburg Development Office, and **Valerie Price** interned at Washington County Prosecutor's Office in Marietta. Last spring, **Angela Hackenburg** interned at the Probation Office of the Marietta Municipal Court, and **Nick Erland** interned at Southeastern Ohio Legal Services.

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

### Student Conference Papers

Three students delivered papers at the "All Politics Is Local" undergraduate research conference last spring sponsored by Walsh University. **Shelby Belknap** presented "Ethnic Tensions," **Mike Morgan** presented "What Factors Influence the Degree of Political Stability Within a State?," and **Melissa Varga** presented "Struggle for Peace: Social Movements and Their Fight to Affect Policy." All three papers were written in the Political Science Capstone course under the direction of **Dr. Mark Schaefer**.

### Pi Sigma Alpha initiation

On April 21, 2010, eight students joined the Psi Nu chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honorary organization. They were **Alissa Bambarger**, **Amelia Bean-DeFlumer**, **Emily Davis**, **Megan Patsch**, **Jessica Peatee**, **Phil Sizemore**, **Cheska Van Gundy**, and **Jennifer Wolfe**. Initiates must be juniors and maintain high grades. Please contact **Dr. Tager** for more information.



L to R: Jennifer Wolfe, Emily Davis, Alissa Bambarger, Amelia Bean-DeFlumer, Phil Sizemore, Megan Patsch, Cheska VanGundy

### DAYMUNC 2010

The Dayton Model United Nations Conference (DAYMUNC) held February 19-20, 2010 was attended by **Alissa Bambarger** (Argentina- World Health Organization), **Donald Keefe** (Mexico- General Assembly), **Mike Morgan** (Mexico- Simulated Security Council), **Carrie Rapp** (Argentina- World Health Organization), **Ben Reese** (Mexico- Security Council), and faculty advisor **Dr. Tager**.



L to R: Donald Keefe, Carrie Rapp, Alissa Bambarger, Ben Reese, Mike Morgan

## Other Notable Student Activities

**Melissa Varga** helped organize a *Women in Leadership* research conference to honor **Dr. Jackie DeLaat's** memory. It was held last April, and included paper presentations by students and faculty, a keynote address by Sushmita Subba of the National Democratic Institute, and luncheon remarks by **Rachel Long** (07) about Dr. DeLaat's impact.

**Melissa Varga** won the Delta Upsilon Good Citizenship Award at graduation. It is awarded by the Faculty Council to the senior who exhibits outstanding scholarship, leadership, character, and participation in extra-curricular activities.

**Cheska Van Gundy** defended her honors thesis proposal "An Examination of Corruption in Chile and Bolivia" last spring.

**Laura Finck** worked as an AmeriCorps Vista Summer Associate at the Ely Chapman Education Foundation this past summer.

**Emma Vierheller** worked at Summit County Democratic Party headquarters this past summer.

**Tian** ("Teresa") **Wu** was awarded membership in Phi Beta Kappa.

**Xiu Ye** ("Tony") **Zhao** did research on Sino-US military relations for the Hudson Institute this past summer.

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## Faculty professional activities

**Dr. Marie Courtemanche** presented two papers, one at the Midwest Political Science Association meeting in Chicago last April titled "The Political Relevance of Trust on Support for Government Spending," and one at the International Society for Political Psychology conference in San Francisco last July titled "Predicting Preferences for Immigration Restrictions with Prejudice and Realistic Threat."

**Dr. Mark Schaefer** presented a paper with co-author John Poffenbarger at the International Studies Association meeting in New Orleans last February titled "Soft Balancing: Intentions Matter."

**Dr. Mike Tager** had an article titled "Expatriates and Elections" published in *Diaspora: A Journal of Transnational Studies*.

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## 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.

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## Political Science Alumni News

**Amelia Bean-DeFlumer** (10) is attending law school at the Ohio State University.

**Shelby Belknap** (10) is attending law school at the University of Dayton.

**Mike Morgan** (10) is attending the Ph.D. program in Political Science at the University of Kentucky.

**Cody Thomas** (10) is working as a clerk at Margolius & Margolius, a law firm in Cleveland, and hopes to attend law school next year. He is currently field manager for Nicole Dailey Jones' campaign for Cuyahoga County Council.



**Melissa Varga** (10) is attending the M.A. program in Political Management at George Washington University.

**Tian Wu** (Dec. 09) is attending the Ph.D. program in Political Science at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

**Phil York** (10) is attending the Masters of Public Service and Administration program at the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A & M University.

**Michael Basic** (Dec 09) is attending the joint JD-MBA program at Cooley Law School.

**Britanny Saunier** (09) is attending the M.A. program in Public Administration at American University. She had been working at U.S. Bank in Columbus.

**Mickey Hart** (08) took a job in August with the College Republican National Committee as a Field Representative. He will work with College Republicans on campuses to recruit volunteers, set up phone banks and canvassing, and work on targeted campaigns. He also writes for the CRNC website at "The Voice of Young Conservatives Blog."

**Joel McKinney** (08) will be attending the University of Toledo Law School Part-Time Night Program. He had been working at the Office of Disability Adjudication and Review in Columbus, and he will continue to work full time at the ODAR office in Toledo while attending law school.

**Kristin Bird** (07) entered the M.S. program in Environmental Protection & Safety Management at St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia last winter. She worked previously at the CERCLA ("Superfund") Records Center of the EPA. While attending graduate school, she continues to work as an Admissions Counselor at Drexel University.

**Rebecca Gehring** (05) finished her Masters of Public Health degree at the University of Toledo last December. She had been working at the Lucas County OH Public Health Department as an Emergency Planner/Epidemiologist until she took a job last spring in Washington DC as a Medical Reserve Corps Program Associate for the National Association of County and City Health Officials.

**Allyson McFerrin** (05) finished law school at Ohio Northern University, passed the Bar, and is the corporate counsel for a small company in Connecticut.

**F. Alex Risovich** (05) finished law school at WVU, passed the Bar, clerked for a year with a Judge in Buckhannon, and now practices law in Weirton WV at the Risovich Law Office.

**Jessica Stout** (05) continues to work as a Human Relations Specialist at the Bureau of Public Debt in Parkersburg.

**Caroline (Mitchell) Dawes** (00) worked as a consultant in Houston before moving to Los Angeles, where she currently is the youth director at a Methodist Church.

**Amy (Jantz) Templeman** (00) is a project manager at the DC Child and Family Services Agency, the public child welfare, foster care, and adoption agency in Washington DC. She previously worked at the Urban Institute.

**Shawna (Sparling) Landaker** (99) spoke to Dr. Tager's Civil Liberties and Civil Rights class last spring about her experiences as an attorney in the Washington County Public Defender's Office. Her office takes MC interns.

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