



January 10, 2018

## Political Science Faculty and Staff, 2017-2018

**Dr. Mark Schaefer**,  
Thomas 314 (376-4801)  
mes001@marietta.edu  
(focus on International  
Relations and U.S. poli-  
tics).

**Dr. Mike Tager**—Thomas  
308 (376-4898)  
tagerm@marietta.edu  
(focus on U.S. and com-  
parative politics).

**Dr. Xiaoxiong Yi**—Thomas  
105 (376-4921)  
yix@marietta.edu (Director  
of the China Institute, Bei-  
jing Office).

**Ms. Christy Hendershot**—  
Thomas 122 (376-4633)  
cdh005@marietta.edu  
(Administrative Coordina-  
tor).

### Inside this issue:

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Model United Na- | 2 |
| Internships      | 2 |
| Model UN contin- | 3 |
| ued              |   |
| Student Honors   | 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)

## Political Science Capstone

The group capstone project, “Needles in the Haystack: Urban Biases in Federal Drug Policy” examined the causes of the opioid epidemic in Ohio and West Virginia. It used both comparative case studies and a regression analysis to study the causes of this public health crisis in the two-state region. Please attend the Political Science session on All Scholars Day (April 20, 2018) to learn more about this research.

The individual capstone research projects included **Paige Berschet**, “Female Reproductive Rights in the United States”; **Tara Clinton**, “TBD: The Oncoming of the Post-Racial Society”; **Brianna Dietry**, “Human Trafficking in the United States”; **Alexis Kaiden**, “Studying the Effects of Higher Education on Political Participation”; **Jonah Mitchell**, “Country Stability: Influences of the Number of Political Parties On Country Stability”; **Sarina Singh**, “What Environmental and Political Factors Explain the Severe Decline of Labor Force Participation of Prime-Age Men Within the United States?”; **Emily A. Smith**, “Religious Freedom and Regime Durability”; **Emily Vigue**, “The Impacts of NGOs on Female Political Participation”; **Samantha Welch**, “The Impacts of Political Scandal: When Public Outrage Changes the Course of an Election”; and **RuoLin (Sharon) Zhang**, “The Impact of Political Instability on Political Participation.” **Sam Welch** won the capstone award for best individual research project.

The fall 2017 Political Science capstone course was taught by **Dr. Schaefer**.

Issue 2 2017-2018



Follow us on  
twitter @PioPoliSci

## 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/spexs/washingtonsemester/](http://www.american.edu/spexs/washingtonsemester/). This past fall Emily Aronoff, the Assistant Director of Admissions for the WSP, visited Marietta College to talk to students about the program.

## Pizza & Politics

The Political Science Department sponsors a series of forums on current events with free pizza. This past fall we had programs on Constitution Day, and on immigration (DACA controversy, etc.). If you have ideas for Pizza and Politics events, please contact Dr. Schaefer, who directs the series.

**PreLaw**

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. We are planning to propose a new Pre-Law minor soon. As part of those plans, we are offering an experimental course this spring, POLS 294 "Law, Courts, and Justice" and will revive the Moot Court course POLS 215/315 next fall. Also, **Cameron Cantley** is organizing a Mock Trial club.

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

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 Dayton Model United Nations Conference (DAYMUNC) in early February. Please contact **Sam Welch**, or any Political Science professor for more information.

Twelve students, Drs. Schaefer and Tager attended the American Model United Nations (AMUN) conference in Chicago November 18-21. Students served on the following committees:  
 General Assembly First Committee on Disarmament and International Security—Croatia: **Loren Coontz**; Slovenia: **Daniel Fox**.  
 General Assembly Second Committee on Economics and Finance—Croatia: **Cameron Cantley**; Slovenia: **Matthew Johnson**.  
 General Assembly Third Committee on Social, Humanitarian & Cultural Affairs—Croatia: **Kenzi McAfee** and **Sam Welch**; Slovenia: **Bri Dietry** and **Emily Vigue**.  
 General Assembly Plenary—Croatia: **Robert Phillips**; Slovenia: **Emily Smith**.  
 World Summit on the Information Society + 10—Croatia: **Rachel Ewing**; Slovenia: **Tara Clinton**. *(continued on page 4)*



Head delegate Emily Smith  
at AMUN

**Internships**

Please contact any Political Science professor for information about Political Science internships. This spring **Savannah Yoho** is interning at the Marietta Municipal Court, and **Kenzi McAfee** is interning at the Washington County Public Defender's Office.

Besides discussing and negotiating world issues in their committees, the conference built in one free afternoon in Chicago, and students went to places like Millennium Park, the Navy Pier, the miracle mile along Michigan Ave., etc. Special thanks go to **Emily A. Smith**, our club president and head delegate who helped organize and lead our participation at this conference. Also thanks to **Katie Evans** in Residence Life, an AMUN staffer who helped with our preparation for the conference.



Student delegates in Millennium Park returning from a dinner of deep dish Chicago pizza. L to R- Cameron Cantley, Kenzi McAfee, Loren Coontz, Dan Fox, Sam Welch, Tara Clinton, Matthew Johnson, Emily Vigue, Bri Dietry, Robert Phillips, Rachel Ewing.

### Student Honors

**Paige Berschet, Jonah Mitchell, and Emily Vigue** were inducted into the Leadership honorary society Omicron Delta Kappa (ODK).

**Emily Smith** (Dec. 17) is currently raising funds for a mission trip to South Asia where she will work with an organization combatting human trafficking.

**Paul Bieniek** (17) is working as a field organizer in the Dan Canon campaign for the U.S. 9<sup>th</sup> Congressional district seat of Indiana. He is based in Greenwood.

**Ed Harvey** (16) joined Drs. Schaefer and Tager for lunch in November in Chicago while they were there with students for a Model UN conference. He currently is applying for graduate school to focus on the fields of community development and transportation infrastructure while holding several part-time jobs in his hometown of Chicago.

**Kurt Fire** (15) is working as an IT analyst for the city of Columbus. He previously worked at the Dakota County (MN) Office of Management and Budget.

**Sean Kuhn** (15) is a Planner in Bath and Body Works' Supply Chain and Planning and Analytics Department in Columbus. He double majored in Economics.

**Zack Eddy** (14) passed

the bar exam and is an Associate Attorney at Bricker and Eckler in Columbus.

**Jessica Johnson** (14) is the Assistant to the Directors of Cabinet and Legislative Affairs in Ohio Governor John Kasich's administration.

**Ben Reese** (13) is a law clerk for the U.S. District Court of Northern Ohio in Cleveland. He will finish his year-long clerkship this summer, and recently accepted a position to start in October 2018 with the Washington DC law firm of Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton. The firm specializes in antitrust work in the US and EU, as well as general commercial litigation. He will be an associate attorney in the litigation department. Ben spoke to students in Dr. Tager's class on the U.S. Constitution in the fall about his experiences as a law clerk in a federal court.

**Phil York** (10) is now the Development Manager at the National Children's Alliance, a nonprofit organization located in Washington DC that focuses on support, accreditation and training

of other organizations that deal with abused children in the U.S. He is involved in grants administration and other technical roles. He formerly was Development Director of the Carroll County MD chapter of Habitat for Humanity. He previously earned an MPA from Texas A & M.

**Mickey Hart** (08) is now working as a Talent Acquisition and Talent Management Specialist for Cuyahoga County, partnering with the Sheriff's Office and Justice Services out of the Justice Center to reduce turnover, improve working conditions in the county jails, and build relations in the community and schools. He formerly worked as a corporate recruiter for MRI Software in Cleveland.

**Sarah Smith** (07) has joined a private practice law firm with Robert Dunlap in Beckley WV. She formerly served as a Public Defender in Raleigh County, WV. We got a chance to catch up with her at Homecoming this past October.

**Rebecca Gehring** (05) is the Vaccine and Outreach Manager at the

New Mexico Department of Health, and based in Albuquerque. She manages a \$60 million budget to purchase vaccines for providers, provides data and analysis, and coordinates statewide immunization education and outreach programs among other duties. She previously worked at the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) as a Project Manager and Program Analyst in Washington DC, and before that earned an MPH from Bowling Green.

**Megan Sargent** (03) earned an MBA at Lipscomb University in Nashville, and is now a Marketing Senior Project Manager for Pride Sports, a premier golf accessory company. She double majored in Marketing.

**Bret Allphin** (01) taught a class on regional economic development in Dr. Tager's First Year Seminar on Appalachia this past fall. He is the Development Director of the Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District, which is affiliated with the Appalachian Regional Commission.

### Marietta College

Department of Political Science  
Thomas Hall 122  
PH: 740.376.4633

Have items of interest to the political science community at MC? Please let Dr. Tager know. This newsletter is published twice a year, or as the news warrants.

