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. Special thanks to Taylor Myers for introducing Drs. Craig and Schaefer at their security v. liberty debate this past fall in his Uncle Sam costume—“Piotastic”!

Moot Court

Six students in Dr. Craig’s Political Science 394 Moot Court course, Josh Counselman, Zach Eddy, CJ Englert, Jessica Johnson, Bryan Murray, and Andrea Neutzling, attended the American Collegiate Moot Court Associations Midwest Regional Tournament November 23-24 at the College of Wooster. They competed there against teams from eleven Midwestern colleges and universities. As part of the course designed to prepare them for the tournament, they read Supreme Court precedents, learned about legal rules, and practiced their application during oral presentations and writing assignments. They presented their arguments to local judges and attorneys at a mini competition in October that included students from Youngstown State University and Notre Dame College. In early November they traveled to the courthouse in Charleston WV and presented their arguments before attorneys from the firm of Shuman, McCuskey & Slicer. All their preparation and hard work paid off because at the Midwest Regional Tournament, the team of CJ Englert and Jessica Johnson qualified for this year’s National Championship Tournament, held January 17-18 at the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law at Arizona. They will attend nationals with Dr. Craig. Congratulations and good luck! Anyone interested in participating in Moot Court next fall should preregister this spring for either POLS 215 or POLS 315. (See photos of the Moot Court Events on the back page.)

Pre-Law

Considering law school after Marietta? If so, please see the new MC Pre-Law advisor Dr. Craig. She 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/spexas/washingtonsemester/.
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 Dayton Model United Nations conference (DAYMUNC) January 31-February 1, 2014. Please contact Michael Fahy, or one of the co-faculty advisors, Drs. Schaefer and Tager, for more information.


Internships

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

Last summer Lilien Gil-Nicolis interned with U.S. Senate Majority Leader, Harry Reid, in his Las Vegas office, which handles federal programs as they affect constituents. She writes: “My summer internship started promptly on my arrival to Nevada in May. I started with small office work and handling constituent calls (which come at a very high rate). After getting more comfortable with my position I teamed up with the immigration and clean energy case workers. Immigration required a lot of time and dedication, but most importantly you had to try really hard to not get attached to the people and the cases because there was only so much we could do for them.... We helped people from all over calling in and checking on the status of their paperwork at their respective embassies, making sure they had the correct information and paperwork. Working with the energy caseworker was a completely different experience. We were co-hosting the 6th annual national Clean Energy Summit, so my summer consisted of planning this huge event that many people would attend, such as: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz, Secretary of Interior Sally Jewell, John Podesta, Dr. Kathryn Sullivan, of course Harry Reid, and many more! This event was so rewarding because besides learning how to put on such a large event, I also learned so much about the Clean Energy Project and got to hear some awesome people speak! This internship has been by far the most rewarding experience of my young adult life and I am so excited for all the opportunities it is going to bring me.”

Also last summer Jason Hoskins interned in Washington DC for the American Principles Project and their Latino Partnership for Conservative Principles. He writes that “the focus of this internship was meeting with members of the House...
Capstone Projects

In the 2014 Political Science Capstone (POLS 420) directed by Dr. Schaefer, students undertook a group research project titled “Laughterhouse-Five or, The Comedians Crusade: A Study of the Effects of Satirical Media on Self-Reported Political Ideology.” The Capstone students examined whether the media people use changes their political views by conducting an experiment with other college students, who were exposed to different kinds of media, including those using satirical humor, and asked questions about their ideologies before and after their media exposures. Capstone students tried to detect what kinds of media have the greatest effect on personal ideology.

Individual research projects included “Immigration and Foreign Policy: How Immigrants Affect Foreign Policy To Favor Their Home Country” by Jason Hoskins; “Fight the Power: Do Small States Balance in the Same Manner as Large States?” by Bryan Murray; “The Impact of Gentrification on Voter Turnout and Partisanship” by Sally Hauser; “The Influence of Issue Networks on US Foreign Policy Change” by Lilien Nicolas; “The Influence of the Military Industrial Cont. on next page

Political Science Alumni News

Lauren Knight (13) returned to campus in October to help judge the mini-Moot Court competition organized by Dr. Craig. Lauren is in her first year of law school at the University of Akron.

Laura Finck (12) plans to finish her Masters in Political Science this spring at the University of New Mexico. She was a teaching assistant in an introductory comparative politics course this past fall, and (mostly) enjoyed the experience.

Emma Vierheller (12) continues to teach Math in Milwaukee as part of Teach for America, and is in the Masters of Education program at Marquette University (she double-majored in Math).

Recently she took several of her students to hear Mary Beth Tinker speak, whose court case was the subject of a summer investigative studies project she did at M C.

Phil York (10) is now the grants and contract manager at Waco TX Habitat for Humanity, the same role he had at the Bryan office. So far he’s helped about 35 families go through the home loan process to close on their homes with a total of about $600,000 in total fundraising from private and government grants and loans to pay for new home construction.

Tim Kemble (09) is planning on enrolling at Youngstown State University to obtain a teaching certificate.

Sotiria Anagnostou (08) won an award as the top Teaching Assistant in the School of Human Evolution and Social Change at Arizona State University. She is currently writing her dissertation on international climate change adaptation policies for her PhD in Environmental Social Sciences, which involved three weeks of field work in Nepal.

Sean Paulhus (08) works as the Aide for the Secretary of the Maine Senate and has served five years on the Bath City Council.

Sarah Smith (07) is now an Assistant Public Defender for Raleigh County in Beckley, West Virginia. She had been practicing law independently previously.

Craig Sundstrom (07) is now the Director of Stakeholder Engagement with the Oklahoma Secretary of Energy and Environment in Oklahoma City. He formerly worked with the National Governors Association.

Meghan Auker (06) recently moved to Melbourne Australia (with her Australian husband) and is hoping to find work in the nonprofit sector there.

Kasey Drennen (03) received an MA in Organizational Leadership from Rider University in December 2013. He continues to be the Assistant Director for Student Activities and Continued on next page
Political Science Alumni News Cont.

College Center at Middlesex County College in Edison NJ.

Jessica (Lane) Mudrick (03) works as a Coldwell Banker Preferred Realtor in southeastern Pennsylvania.

Megan Sargent (03) is the National Sales Manager for Magnum Magnetics, and based now in Nashville TN.

Terese Herhold (02) is the Policy Director for the Ohio Senate Minority Caucus. In her spare time, she skates for the Ohio Roller Girls, Columbus’ Roller Derby team.

Elizabeth Loring Thompson (93) has been working in Washington DC since graduating, in federal acquisitions for the past seven years, and in non-profits before that. She received a Masters from George Mason University in 2007. She is happy to meet or talk with MC students who may be considering careers in Washington. Please see Dr. Schaefer for her contact information.

Capstone Projects Cont.

MC Hosts Moot Court Scrimmage in October 2013

MC’s Competitors at the Moot Court Scrimmage: Jessica Johnson, CJ Englert, Zach Eddy, Josh Counselman, and Bryan Murray.

American Collegiate Moot Court Associations Midwest Regional Tournament

The Moot Court Class got the opportunity to present arguments at the Courthouse in Charleston, WV

Moot Court Competitors: Andrea Neutzling, Zach Eddy, CJ Englert, Jessica Johnson, Bryan Murray, and Josh Counselman

MC’s Competitors: Andrea Neutzling, Zach Eddy, CJ Englert, Jessica Johnson, Bryan Murray, and Josh Counselman

CJ Englert and Jessica Johnson qualified for this year’s National Championship Tournament, held in January 2014.

Capstone Projects Cont.