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Faculty Publications

Dr. Schaefer's book, *The Formation of the BRICS and its Implication for the United States: Emerging Together*, co-authored with Dr. John Poffenbarger, was published by Palgrave MacMillan in their “Pivot” series, which is devoted to important recent political developments.

The book is available on Amazon.com. Dr. Schaefer and his co-author first presented their analysis of the BRICS as a series of papers given at Political Science conferences. To help finish the book last year, he received research assistance from five Political Science students: Josh Counselman (14), CJ Englert (14), Michael Fahy, Kurt Fire and Sean Kuhn.

According to the publisher's summary on the Amazon webpage, Dr. Schaefer and his co-author argue that "while still considered a world political and economic superpower, the United States is becoming increasingly well-matched by five emerging economies known as the BRICS: Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. Together, these countries



L to R: Sean Kuhn, Dr. Schaefer, Kurt Fire and Michael Fahy. Not pictured: Josh Counselman and CJ Englert

would have the clout to limit the United States' ability to engage in its preferred foreign policies, thereby reducing US power abroad. In anticipation of this potential alliance, they analyze the foreign policies of individual BRICS members for common goals and approaches as well as bilateral problems that may exist between member states. With particular attention paid to the BRICS' Africa strategy and founding of the New Development Bank, the book explores joint actions of the BRICS body and suggests policy recommendations the US might adopt in response."

Congratulations to Dr. Schaefer for this very significant scholarly accomplishment!

Dr. Tager had an article titled "Apologies to Indigenous Peoples in Comparative Perspective" published in *The International Indigenous Policy Journal*.

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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/.

Last fall Kara Goolman attended the Transforming Communities track of the WSP and did an internship at The Center for Clean Energy Innovation, a small research institute that promotes investment in energy innovation research and development to combat climate change.

Model United Nations

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.

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 **Michael Fahy**, or one of the co-faculty advisors, Drs. Schaefer and Tager, for more information.

Sixteen students and Drs. **Morgan** and **Tager** attended the Lake Erie International Model United Nations Conference November 6-8 in Huron OH. Students served on the following committees:

1. Security Council—Australia: **Ed Harvey** and **Anissa Hirallal**.
2. Mystery Security Council—(assignments varied): **Ariann Barile & Chanell Cornett**.
3. Commission on the Status of Women—Indonesia:

Alex Boggs; South Africa:

Paul Bieniek.

4. UN High Commissioner for Refugees—United Kingdom: **Joey Casavecchia & Savannah Yoho**;

Mexico: **Paige Berschot & Jonah Mitchell**.

5. UN Conference on Trade and Development—South Korea: **Michael Fahy**; Pakistan: **Kurt Fire** and **Emily Smith**.

6. African Union—Nigeria: **Whitley Trusler**; Sudan: **Latrice Nelson & Taylor Myers**.

Michael Fahy and the teams of **Joey Casavecchia & Savannah Yoho** and **Ariann Barile & Chanell Cornett** won conference awards for their performances. Kudos to them! In addition, **Joey Casavecchia** won a dubious

distinction award for best Robin Thicke impression (“blurred lines are better than no lines”) and best Model UN professor (for reading the rules aloud), and **Taylor Myers** won a dubious distinction award for most combative delegate and for naming his committee room “the diplomatic cabin.”

Pictured below left to right, in the front row: Anissa Hirallal, Latrice Nelson, Emily Smith, Taylor Myers, Chanell Cornett, Joey Cassavechia, Paige Berschot. Pictured left to right, in the back row: Paul Bieniek, Alex Boggs, Jonah Mitchell, Ariann Barile, Savannah Yoho, Kurt Fire, Michael Fahy, Whitley Trusler, Ed Harvey.



Dr. Yi's Newspaper Column

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

Political Science Capstone

The Political Science senior majors worked on a very diverse set of individual research papers this past fall under the direction of **Dr. Schaefer**, covering everything from **Michael Fahy's** project on the formation of international regimes to **Danie Chirdon's** project on the impact of gender on legislative be-

havior. There were a number of impressive qualitative and quantitative projects, and we look forward to hearing many of them presented on All Scholars Day (mark your calendars for April 15, 2015!). The group capstone project was a massive undertaking that studied what factors influence candidate electability

in Marietta College Student Senate elections. The project used videos of mock Senate candidates to test what factors contributed to voter choice. Special thanks to **Prof. Morgan** for providing methodological expertise to capstone students doing quantitative projects.

Internships

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

This spring **Casey Peel** is

interning at Washington-Morgan County Community Action and **Jessie Hamon** is interning at the Marietta Municipal Court. Last fall **Jacob Wahl** interned on the Jennifer Garrison for Congress Campaign in

Marietta. Over the summer, **Haley Bibbee** attended the Washington Center program and interned at the Shia Rights Watch (SRW) in Washington DC. The SRW is a research and

advocacy organization dedicated to protecting the rights of Shia Muslims worldwide. For more information about Washington Center internships, please see Ms. Hilles Hughes.

Pizza & 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**. The first

Pizza and Politics this semester will be on Wednesday January 21 at 5pm and we will be discussing the Charlie

Hebdo Magazine Massacre and Counterterrorism.

Study Abroad

Haley Bibbee studied at Dubrovnik International University in Dubrovnik Croatia last fall. The school was located in an abandoned monastery, where she studied economics, diplomacy, and political history. She writes that in "my semester I was able to travel to the top of Mount Srd



(where you could see both Bosnia and Montenegro in either direction), through the Elafiti Islands that were just a boat ride away from where we stayed, and the island of Lokrum, which the locals believe was cursed by monks, so no one inhabits the land." She also traveled through Europe.

Daley Buckwell studied at

the Universidad del Norte in Barranquilla, Colombia last fall.

Eric Miranda studied in China last fall at the Beijing Foreign Studies University. He

had an opportunity to travel throughout China on several long weekends, including trips to Shanghai, Xi'an, and Chengdu." He writes that "each city was unique and offered very different experiences." He improved his Chinese outside of class by living with a Beijing family who spoke no English, meeting with a Chinese friend in the city, and tutoring a Chinese student in English at the University. He reflects on his study abroad semester that "China gave me many tremendous experiences

and memories. Not every day was easy, and sometimes you would end up in strange situations. But if I learned one thing, it is that China just happens to you, and it's usually best not to fight it and just let it happen. You never know who you will meet, or the stories that you will take with you. I hope one day I can go back."

Casey Peel studied in Pune in India at the Gokhale Institute for Politics and Economics. She enjoyed her immersion in Indian culture, and reflects that "I entered a world where I learned to communicate with locals in more ways than just through language; I had to learn how to adapt to new food... , an onslaught of air pollution..., wearing conservative clothes in... the tropical heat..., tak-

ing bucket baths...., and so much more. Living in a different country opened me up so much to different ways of life. I very much value the challenges that I faced, such as homesickness, being labeled as a foreigner no matter where I went, Dengue Fever (and navigating the Indian Health Care system), communication barriers, and an internship in the urban slums of Pune... It has made me so much stronger, as well as grateful...for all of the things I have at my fingertips at home in



the U.S. I would go back in a minute if given the chance. It is an experience that will forever be a part of who I am."

Political Science Alumni News

John Stack (08) died in a boating accident in September. He worked for the FBI out of their Cincinnati office. He was a member of the Political Science honorary Pi Sigma Alpha, and attended a number of Model UN conferences. He was doing graduate work in the Homeland Security and Defense program at Pennsylvania State University at the time of his death. We will miss him.

Seen back on campus last fall: **Ben Reese** (13) did a lunchtime informational session for pre-law students while on a break in his second year at the University of Michigan Law School, **Zach Eddy** (14), visited on a break from his first year at Michigan State University Law School, **Sarah Smith** (07) visited while in Parkersburg for a conference. She's an Assistant

Public Defender in Raleigh County (Beckley) WV. **Bret Allphin** (01) attended an MC Faculty Forum at the Galley on a proposed new GIS minor presented by Dr. Matthew Young. Bret is the Development Director/GIS Manager at the Buckeye Hills-Hocking Valley Regional Development District office located in Reno, OH. Dr. Young consulted with him when developing this proposed new GIS minor.

Richie Fredericks (12) is working as the Assistant Men's Rowing Coach at Villanova University.

Emily Davis (11) is working as a Program Manager and Analyst at the Kentucky Clean Fuels Coalition in Louisville. She mainly analyzes and identifies natural gas industry barriers and needs and establishes and manages

partnerships with secondary institutions. She previously received a Masters in the International Affairs program of the Patterson School at the University of Kentucky.

Megan Patsch (11) is working as a Community Membership Executive for the Girl Scouts of Northeast Ohio. She is applying for graduate programs in Conflict Resolution.

Yue (Luna) Wang (11) is transitioning to the MBA portion of her dual MA (in Government)-MBA program at Johns Hopkins University. She plans to return to Beijing after she finishes.

Cody Thomas (10) is working as a disability specialist at Human Arc in Cleveland.

Craig Stewart (07) is

working as attorney for Barr Jones in Columbus

Tyson Brown (06) is working as the Senior Market Design Analyst for Pacific Gas and Electric in San Francisco. He previously worked as an analyst for the Department of Energy in Washington DC.

Kayt (Sepic) Jonsson (06) is working as a Multimedia Production Specialist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Washington DC. She previously received an MFA in Film and Electronic Media at American University.

Rachel Creasy (04) is working as a Recruiting Program Manager at Staffing Solutions Enterprise in Cleveland. She previously received an MA in Labor Relations and Human Resources at Cleveland State University.

Leader in Residence Project

This past fall, MC's inaugural Leader in Residence, **Kathleen Reddy-Smith** (a retired Foreign Service officer and MC alumna), worked with students in **Dr. Schaefer's** POLS 325 Middle East Politics course to teach them State Department

writing styles and strategic writing styles. Building on that work, students will research an assigned country this spring as part of a POLS 395 course directed by **Dr. Schaefer**. In April **Ms. Reddy-Smith** and **Dr. Schaefer** will take eight

students to Washington DC for oral examinations before State Department experts in their respective country assignments. The students participating in this project include **Danie Chirdon** (Horn of Africa), **Michael Fahy** (Russia), **Kurt Fire** (South

Korea), **Ed Harvey** (Indonesia), **Ashley Jesser** (Senegal), **Alina Kielbasa** (Australia), **Sean Kuhn** (Mexico), and **Taylor Myers** (Belgium).

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Have items of interest to the political science community at MC? Please let Dr. Tager know. (tagerm@marietta.edu, x4898, Thomas Hall 308) This newsletter is published twice a year, or as the news warrants.

