Political Science Happenings

Political Science Faculty and Staff, 2008-2009

Dr. Jacqueline DeLaat—Thomas 303 (ext. 4660) delaatj@marietta.edu (focus on US. Politics, public policy, women and politics).

Dr. Mark Schaefer—Thomas 314 (ext. 4801) mes001@marietta.edu (focus on international relations).

Dr. Mike Tager—Thomas 106 (ext. 4898) tagerm@marietta.edu (focus on political theory, constitutional law, comparative politics).

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

Ms. Paula Lewis—Thomas 122 (ext 4633) lewisp@marietta.edu (administrative assistant).

Washington Semester

Interested in studying at American University for a semester and getting an internship in Washington DC? Please contact Dr. DeLaat for more information about the Washington Semester program. Last spring Britt Howell and Erin Todd participated in the American Politics section of the program.

Pre-law

Considering law school after Marietta? If so, please see our pre-law advisors Dr. Schaefer and local attorney Ms. Lesley Kuhl (lhk001@marietta.edu; Thomas 315). They 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

In conjunction with the McDonough Leadership Program, the Political Science Department sponsors a series of forums on issues of current interest with free pizza and soda for attendees. Last year’s topics included the crisis in Darfur, global warming, the presidential primary elections, Tibet, etc. 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. The club is currently planning for this year’s activities. Students interested in participating should sign up for POLS 194, a one-credit Model UN preparation course offered this fall. For more information, please contact: Britt Howell (bkh001@marietta.edu), or Dr. Schaefer (mes001@marietta.edu) or Dr. Tager (tagerm@marietta.edu).

Internships

Michael Basic interned over the summer with local attorney Chad Spence and got to observe a trial in Athens County Municipal Court.

Brianne D’Ambrosio interned last spring at EVE, the Marietta women’s shelter, and worked with the children of EVE clients.

Participating in American University’s Washington Semester program last spring, Britt Howell interned with the Federal Affairs Bureau for the State of Connecticut, and Erin Todd interned at the Washington law firm of McManus, Schor, Asmar and Darden.

Cody Thomas interned over the summer at one of U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown Ohio offices.

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

Notable Student Activities

Mickey Hart, Leanne McCullough, and Mike Morgan attended the Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC) last February in Washington DC. Speakers included President Bush, Vice-President Cheney, and then-presidential candidates Mike Huckabee, John McCain, and Mitt Romney.

Leanne McCullough worked in U.S. Senator George Voinovich’s Washington office during the summer doing legislative research and correspondence on oil and gas issues, writing legislative memoranda, attending hearings and briefings on foreign relations and energy, and handling administration duties like tours and constituent concerns.

Brittany Saunier participated in the week-long NEW Leadership Ohio conference sponsored by the John Glenn School of Public Affairs at Ohio State University June 16-20. The conference included workshops on leadership development and opportunities to listen to and interact with a variety of female political leaders and officials.

Abby Sullivan worked as a field organizer in Winston-Salem for Hillary Clinton’s North Carolina primary campaign from April 8 through May 8. She handled voter contact, support building, campaign events, and organized volunteers. She had worked on Clinton’s campaign in New Hampshire as part of Dr. DeLaat’s January Term course.

Erin Todd worked for EMILY’s List in Washington DC over the summer in their campaign corps/staffer training program.

Melissa Varga worked at the Ohio Democratic Committee this past summer

Guest Speakers

Barbara Burrell, a Political Science professor at Northern Illinois University and a noted scholar of women and politics, spoke to Dr. DeLaat’s Women in U.S. Politics course this past spring. Woodrow Wilson Fellow and distinguished journalist Richard Hornik spoke to classes taught by Drs. Schaefer and Tager this past spring.
Faculty professional activities

At the Midwest Political Science Association meeting in April in Chicago, Dr. DeLaat met with the Executive Council, on which she serves as a member, and she chaired a panel on “Women, Welfare, and Public Policy.” She is attending the American Political Science Association meeting in Boston over Labor Day weekend, and beginning a research project with Barbara Burrell on female political science PhDs who have run for political office. Dr. Schaefer delivered the paper (co-authored with John Poffenbarger) “Making Friends in Latin America: Hegemonic Acceptance and Rejection” at the International Studies Association meeting in San Francisco in March. He also led a session in the Marietta Great Decisions series on the Iraq war. Dr. Tager delivered the paper “The Politics of Constitutional Change: Revealing the Natural Born Citizen Requirement for Presidential Eligibility” and chaired a panel on “Judicial Decision-Making and Strategies” at the Southwest Political Science Association meeting in Las Vegas in March.

Political Science Alumni News

Sotiria Anagnostou (08) starts the MA program in Energy and Environmental Policy at Boston University this fall.

Nick Busch (08) starts the MA program in Political Science at Ohio University this fall.

Brianne D’Ambrosio (08) starts the MA program in Elementary Education at Muskingum College this fall.

Whitney Miller (08) starts Law School at the University of Dayton this fall.

Scott Nyitray (Dec. 07) starts the MA program in Theater at the University of Kentucky this fall.

Sean Paulhus (08) worked for two months as the campaign manager of Seth Goodall’s Maine State Senate campaign, and then was hired as a field staffer for the Maine State Senate Democratic Campaign Committee. He is helping with five State Senate races.

Nathan Tewanger (08) works at the U.S. Bureau of Public Debt in Parkersburg WV as a Legal Instruments Examiner.

Rachel Long (07) is a supervisor at an Infocision call center in Akron while she considers her options for graduate or law school.

Craig Sundstrom (07) finished his first year at Oklahoma City College of Law and had a summer internship at the American Bar Association Section on Dispute Resolution in Washington DC.

Kristen Bird (Dec. 06) now works in the Admissions Office of Drexel University in Philadelphia.

Meghan Auker (06) worked on Bill Foster’s successful campaign for Congress for the seat vacated by Dennis Hastert of Illinois, and now works in one of Foster’s congressional district offices handling constituent services.

Becca Gehring (05) finished her two year stint in the Peace Corps in Imilchil, Morocco last May. At last hearing, she was planning to attend the graduate program in Anthropology at the University of Cincinnati this fall.

Kevin Bancroft (03) starts the MA program in Political Science at Northeastern University this fall.

Jessica Lane Mudrick (03) has a marketing and technology position with Baird and Bird Realty in suburban Philadelphia.

Terese Herhold (02) managed Sue Morano’s successful Ohio State Senate campaign in 2006 and has been working as a Legislative Aide for Morano in Columbus since January of 2007. In her spare time, she skates for the Blackeye Bullies in the new Ohio Women’s Roller Derby League. She originally skated under the name Bruisin’ B. Anthony, but has since adopted a different name (unknown as of this writing).

Leah Hite (02) narrowly missed getting elected to the Pataksala (OH) City Council last November (she lost by 127 votes).

Eric Stern (97) is a co-chair of Barack Obama’s national LGBT organizing effort. He has been involved in Obama’s campaign since his own preferred candidate, John Edwards, withdrew.

Neil Justice (96) was Horry County (SC) coordinator for the Romney for President Campaign and serves on the steering committee for U.S. Senator Lindsey Graham’s (SC) relection campaign. He works at a bank, is completing an MA in American Government and Politics at the American Military University, and hopes to work for a U.S. Senator or Representative.

Jo Boggess Phelps (94) is running for a seat in the West Virginia assembly, to represent the Ripley, WV area.

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.

Have items of interest to the political science community at MC? Let Dr. Tager (tagerm@marietta.edu) know…This publication is published erratically as the news warrants….