



Department of Political Science

Fall 2011

POLI Newsletter

Volume 6, No. 1

Greetings from the Chair

Excitement and optimism mark the Department's outlook for the 2011-2012 academic year. We began the Fall semester by welcoming a new faculty member, Assistant Professor Holger Kern, a new and very large group of undergraduate majors, and new graduate students in our MPA, MAIS, and PhD Programs. We are also excited by and optimistic about our plans to recruit for five new faculty members, one each in the fields of International Relations, Comparative Politics, Political Theory, and two in the field of Public Administration and Public Policy. In addition, the College is recruiting for a new Director of the Walker Institute—POLI Professor Gordon Smith, the current Director, will be retiring--and we are hopeful that we can find for that position a senior Political Scientist to fill Gordon's shoes.

We are excited, too, that three of these five new Department positions were authorized by the Provost after a University-wide competition. Doing so well in the competition (there were only about 40 hires authorized across the entire campus) speaks volumes about the quality of this Department, its undergraduate and graduate programs and faculty, and also its essential place and strategic value in the educational, research, and service missions of the University. Similarly, the College's authorization of the other two positions in a tight budget year attests to the Dean's recognition of the Department's importance and accomplishments.

Yet another cause for excitement and optimism are plans for the Department's 75th Anniversary! According to our records, the Political Science Department was officially

established at the University in 1937, when it contained a faculty of one who offered a total of four courses to all of 54 students. Having grown and in various ways changed substantially since that time, we are planning to mark the growth and success of the Department by organizing both a fund-raising campaign and a celebratory event, the latter now scheduled for September of 2012. We are hoping that the thousands of students who have earned their undergraduate or graduate degrees from the Department will consider responding to the campaign by pledging their support and by attending or participating in the event. Details, once they are worked out, will be placed on our website (<http://www.cas.sc.edu/poli/>) and published in the Spring semester edition of the *Newsletter*.

In addition to our faculty searches and our planning for the Anniversary, the Department has been busy this Fall semester hosting a number of distinguished visitors to the Department, organizing and sponsoring a variety of events, and carrying on the business of teaching, research, and service. Our graduate students have been at least as busy as our faculty, and our undergraduates have again distinguished themselves by winning a great many awards and honors during Awards Day this past April. You can read about all of this, and much more, in this issue of the *Newsletter*; we hope you enjoy it, and, as always, invite our alumnae and alumni to send us your news for inclusion in future issues.

Dan Sabia
Editor, Department Chair

Jill Frank
Vice-Chair

Lee Walker
Graduate Director

Mark Tompkins
MPA Director

Todd Shaw
Undergraduate Director

Kirk Randazzo
Placement Director

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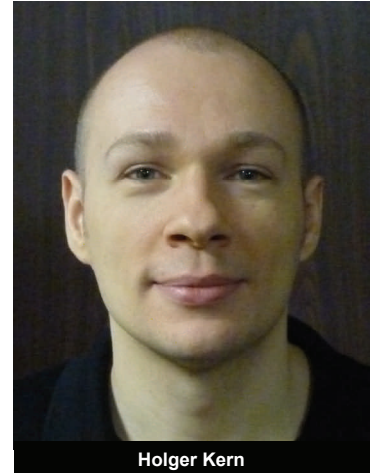
Melissa Gross
Administrative Assistant

Tyler Bledsoe
Technical Assistant

Department Welcomes New Faculty Member

The Department is delighted to welcome its newest member, Assistant Professor **Holger Kern**, who joined the faculty in August. Holger received his Ph.D. from Cornell University in 2008, a Masters in International Relations at the London School of Economics, and a BA in Political Science at the University of Tubingen in 2001. He served as a Postdoc at the Yale Institution for Social and Policy Studies for two years, from June 2009-July 2011, and from September 2008-May 2009 served as a Postdoc at the Whitney and Betty MacMillan Center for International Studies, also at Yale.

Holger's primary research and teaching interests are in comparative politics and political methodology. In comparative politics, he focuses on voting behavior, the mass media, social movements and collective action, and political economy, especially in Western Europe; in political methodology, his focus is on research design and causal inference in field experiments and observational studies. Holger has already authored or co-authored eight articles, including most recently a forthcoming article in *Comparative Political Studies* on "Foreign Media and Protest Diffusion in Authoritarian Regimes: The Case of the 1989 East German Revolution." For the Fall semester, he is teaching the Department's undergraduate "Introduction to Comparative Politics" course, and the required course for MAIS and Ph.D. students on "Methods of Political Analysis." In addition to adjusting to his new position in the Department and to the Columbia heat, Holger has also been busy in his new role as the proud father of twins, born this August.



Holger Kern

Professors Darmofal and Walker Tenured and Promoted



Professor Walker (left); Professor Darmofal (right)

The Department is pleased to announce that Professors David Darmofal and Lee Walker were both officially awarded tenure, and promoted to the rank of Associate Professor, on August 15.

Professor Darmofal joined the Department in 2005. His research and teaching interests are in American Politics and political methodology. His research agenda is motivated by the questions of whether and how American democracy functions effectively and examines these concerns by exploring two sets of interactions between political actors that are central to these questions. The first focuses on horizontal interactions, employing a geographic lens to examine how the spatial interactions and locations of actors shape their behavior. The second examines vertical interactions with a focus on the nexus of elite and mass behaviors. This research in political geography and elite-mass interactions focuses on three political behaviors: political participation, voting behavior, and opinion formation. His work on these subjects has been published in journals such as the *American Journal of Political Science*, the *Journal of Politics*, *Political Geography*, *Political Research Quarterly*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Psychology*, and *American Politics Research*. He has also recently completed a book manuscript, *Spatial Analysis for the Social Sciences* (under contract with the Analytical Methods for Social Research series at Cambridge University Press). His current research includes studies of the effects of spatial dependence on survey inferences, the effects of spatial proximity on legislators' roll-call voting behavior, and the effects of political competition on voter participation.

Professor Darmofal has taught a variety of courses in the Department at the undergraduate and graduate levels. He has also been actively engaged in service to the Department, the University, and the discipline. Within the Department, he has served as the Director of Graduate of Studies and currently serves on the Department's Advisory Committee and in a variety of other committee positions. He is also currently a member of the University's Graduate Council. Within the discipline, he is currently serving on the Editorial Board of the *American Journal of Political Science* and is the Program Co-Chair for the 70th Annual Midwest Political Science Association Meeting, which will be held in Chicago next April.

Professor Walker earned his doctoral degree from the University of Florida in December 2003, and joined the Department in August of 2006. Between those two dates he served as an Assistant Professor at the University of Kentucky and, in 2006, as a Visiting Scholar in Harvard University's Institute for Quantitative Social Science. His research and teaching interests focus on democratization, comparative judicial politics, Latin American politics, and research methods. Professor Walker has published articles in *Comparative Politics*, the *Journal of Politics*, *Latin American Research Review*, *Law and Society Review*, *Electoral Studies* and *Party Politics*. Currently, Professor Walker is conducting research that examines judicial decision making and the expansion of the protection of civil and political rights in civil law countries with POLI colleague Professor Donald Songer. This research is funded by the National Science Foundation and has involved field research in Nicaragua, El Salvador and Costa Rica. Professor Walker is very proud of the fact that this research project involves substantial collaboration with USC graduate and undergraduate students.

As a teacher, Professor Walker has taught courses in democratization, comparative judicial politics, Latin American politics, politics of developing countries, Latin American political economy, and both quantitative and qualitative research methods. He has served as an instructor in the University of Michigan's Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) Summer Program for five years, where he has taught both introduction to data analysis and regression analysis. Within the University, Professor Walker is an affiliated faculty in the Latin American Studies Program and the Rule of Law Collaborative. Additionally, he teaches classes in the Moore School of Business's Master of International Business Program. Professor Walker values the relationships he has formed with students at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. He currently serves as the Director of Graduate Studies. He serves on numerous dissertation and master committees, and works with graduate students on both conference papers and articles. He has also served as a faculty mentor for several undergraduate students on USC's Magellan Undergraduate Research grant program. Professor Walker is also very active in service to the profession. He served as a member of the Diversity Committee for the Society of Political Methodology, as a member of Political Analysis, and as a member of the Nominating Committee for the Southwestern Political Science Association.

POLI Undergraduate News

Every Fall semester, we are proud to recognize and pleased to congratulate the many POLI students who were awarded various honors during University Awards Day. **Katie Parham**, for instance, won one of the University's most prestigious awards, the Algernon Sydney Sullivan Award. Katie graduated from the Honors College in May with a degree in Political Science and French, was a 2011 Rhodes Scholar nominee, a 2012 Truman finalist, a member of the Carolina Service Council and Director of the Alternative Break Programs. She is currently working in Teach for America. **Anna Janosik** was named the Outstanding Junior in Political Science, and **Jasmine Whelan** the Outstanding Junior in International Studies. The Outstanding Senior in Political Science award went to **James Cederdahl**, and **Gabriele Peterson** was named the Outstanding Senior in International Studies. **James** and **Gabriele** were also named USC Outstanding Seniors, as were **Hakeem Jefferson**, **Helen Knight**, **Katie Par-**

ham, **Vessela Radieva** and **Peter Schaeffing**, and **Kathryn Witzke**.

Many other POLI students received awards as well. The College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Political Science Rising Senior Award was bestowed on **Caroline Cease**, while **Dylan Withers** was awarded the College's Outstanding International Studies Rising Senior Award. **Elizabeth Fray** and also **Alexandra Spahr** won Phi Beta Kappa Freshman Scholar Awards. **Lauren Smentek** won a US Department of State Critical Languages Scholar award. The Rising Senior Award in the Department of Languages, Literatures and Culture went to **Alyssa Weeks**, and the Hoeschst Scholarship Award, also bestowed by that Department, went to **Colby Wilborn**. The Charles W. Coolidge Award, awarded by the History Department, was won by **Christian Buckson** and also by **James Strickland**. The Criminal Justice Studies Department presented **Scott Maclatchie, Jr.** with that Department's

Outstanding Academic Excellence Award, while the Geography Department bestowed its Julian J. Petty Award on **David McLain**. And the POLI Department's 2010-11 Phil S. Bennet Medal Essay Award competition resulted in scholarship awards going to first place winner **Steven Vanderbilt, Jr.** and to second place winner **Doris Hernandez**.

A number of our students were also named to Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities: **Molly Butters**, **James Cederdahl**, **Hakeem Jefferson**, **Helen Knight**, **Frank Moran, Jr.**, **Katie Parham**, **Laura Parker**, **Gabriele Peterson**, **Vessela Radieva**, **Kelly Roberts**, **Peter Schaeffing**, **Nadia Shutkufski**, **Ashley Swearingen**, **Hilary Vedvig**, **Laura Ware**, and **Kathryn Witzke**.

In addition, many of our students were also inducted into honor societies Pi Sigma Alpha and Sigma Iota Rho on

Awards Day. Pi Sigma Alpha inductees were **Meredith Altman, Chris Buki, Kate Connelly, Meaghan Dimakis, Ashley French, Beatriz Gantt, Natalie Griggs, Patrick Haarsgaard, Kristen Hatcher, Anna Janosik, Kaleigh Jones, Ryan Kerestes, Scott MacLatchie, Morgan Mixon, Shaye Moessner, Katie Parham, Will Payne, Daina Riley, Kirsten Serba, Amy Soukup, Chloe Thurston, Erin Toczek, Hillary Vedvig, and Laura Ware.** Sigma Iota Rho inductees were **Abigail Beach, Warren Durrett, Meagan Gunning, Jennifer Jones, Abraham Layman, Jubriel Meneses, Miles Porter, Laura Smentek, Lisa Splawinski, Laura Stefan, Maggie Steiner, Alyssa Weeks, and Dylan Wither.**

Lisa Splawinski, mentioned immediately above as one of the Sigma Iota Rho inductees, is an Honors College student majoring in International Studies and Spanish, and expected to graduate this December. During this past summer, Lisa completed an internship program—thanks in part to the support of the POLI Department—through a non-profit organization called Students Action with Farmworkers (SAF). One of SAF’s programs is an undergraduate internship called “Into the Fields,” where undergraduate students are

placed in various migrant outreach programs throughout North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and Tennessee, doing legal, medical, education, and community organizing outreach. Because Lisa plans on pursuing a law degree and potentially specializing in immigration law, she applied for one of the legal spots and was placed with South Carolina Legal Services in Charleston, SC. Through SC Legal Services, she conducted legal outreach to all of the farms in South Carolina that hired temporary migrant farmworkers to assure that their living and working conditions were complying with federal standards. “The internship,” says Lisa, “was one of the best experiences of my undergraduate career, and it significantly aided my professional and personal development. I learned a great deal about the United States’ H-2A temporary migrant worker program, which accounts for a substantial amount of immigration to the U.S. I was also able to witness first-hand the kinds of living and working conditions that are provided to the workers, and I was able to speak with them directly about their personal and professional experiences in the U.S. and in their home countries. I learned a great deal about advocating for social justice on a national level, and I am now considering obtaining a dual

J.D./M.P.P degree so I can do policy work in the future.”

Mock Trial Team. The POLI Department is also providing financial support this year to the Mock Trial Team. The team, which includes POLI undergraduates among its members and leaders, engages throughout the academic year in a variety of collegiate competitions. On September 24, the Team hosted the Third Annual University of South Carolina Euphradian Novice Speech and Debate Tournament. Nearly 300 competitors from high schools in South Carolina, North Carolina, and Georgia participated in the tournament, which offers twelve categories of competition. The top six students in each event received medals, and the three schools with the most awards received a sweepstakes plaque. Competitors were judged by varsity members from other high schools and by USC students, faculty, and staff. Proceeds from the event provide a key source of the Team’s funding, along with support from the POLI Department, Student Government, and other sponsors. The Team’s Vice President, and the Director of this year’s Tournament, is POLI senior **Monica Bracey.**

Student Achievements Celebrated at MPA Hooding Ceremony



Bottom row, from left to right: Jennifer McCormack, Caitlin Corbet, Andrew Dorsey, and Jonathan Eckstrom. Top row, from left to right are: Ebony Woods, Jessica Guthrie, Hollie Tripp, and Johnathan Burnett.

The Master of Public Administration Program held its annual Hooding Ceremony and Graduate Reception on May 6th in the Palmetto Room at the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce. This year’s commencement speaker was Mr. Milton Pope, Richland County Administrator and President of the SC City and County Management Association. Eight students, pictured left, graduated the MPA Program, and are now serving in various non-profit and public sector positions throughout South Carolina. Two students received special graduation honors at the ceremony. **Andrew Dorsey** and **Jennifer McCormack** were honored with the Samuel Carter Fellowship for their outstanding academic achievement and service. Mr. Dorsey also received special recognition for his capstone project on the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act that was created for use by the South Carolina Attorney General’s Office.

Also during the ceremony, **Dr. Mary Baskin Waters**, an adjunct instructor in the MPA Program, was named Professor of the Year for her commitment to students and her passion for teaching. The MPA Student Association was also honored at the event by the Director of the South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice. In March, the Student Association began a unique service partnership with that Department. Known as the Hope Connection, the partnership brings USC MPA students to juvenile prisons to mentor incarcerated youth. Friends, family, faculty and staff joined the newly hooded graduates after the ceremony for a wonderful reception.

Department Welcomes Full Time Instructors

With support from the College, the Department has been able to employ for the current academic year three very capable --and familiar-- full time instructors. Serving as Adjunct Instructors are Drs. Heather Hawn and Jihyun Kim, both of whom graduated in May from the Department's doctoral program. Dr. Tony Dukés, also a POLI Ph.D. and an affiliated member of the Department's MPA program, is serving in a post-doctoral position for the year.



Tony Dukés

Dr. John A. (Tony) Dukés received his MPA in 1975, and his PhD in 2008, both from this Department, and between those dates served for 35 years with the state of South Carolina. He held a number of positions in direct services, leadership, and research in human and community corrections. He was responsible for the development of several statewide projects such as a budget manager program, initiation of the juvenile restitu-

tion program, the development of a pretrial report program, a workload management program, an alcohol and drug residential intervention program, the assessment of the impact of residency restrictions on sex offenders for the state, and the use of GIS in case assignment.

Long before entering the MPA Program, Tony taught graduate level management and business courses for Webster University's George Herbert Walker School of Business and Technology in Charleston, Myrtle Beach, Greenville and Columbia. In addition, he was the faculty coordinator for the Shaw Air Force campus of Webster University. He has also been an active member of the American Society for Public Administration, and is currently Treasurer of the South Carolina Chapter. Since 2009, he has been an affiliated member of the MPA Program, and this year, on the post-doc appointment, he is teaching four courses for the Department as well as the Introduction to Public Administration course for USC's Palmetto Program. Tony's research interests encompass accountability and benchmarking, policy, and state and local government, especially in South Carolina. A certified Baldrige Examiner for the state of South Car-

olina, Tony has conducted audits as well as written a number of annual state agency reports using the Baldrige format. In Tony's Practicum Course on Strategic Planning and Accountability, MPA students are exposed to strategic planning and Baldrige material, and apply what they learn by working with the City of Columbia Department of Public Works.

Heather Hawn, a May 2011 graduate from our PhD Program and an award-winning POLI instructor, is teaching our courses in Nationalism and Ethnicity in World Politics, National Security Policies of the United States, and Controversies in Global Politics this semester, and both a regular and an Honors College section of Controversies in World Politics in the spring. She has scheduled several guest speakers for her classes including doctoral candidate Alex Nicholson to discuss repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," current Florida Central law student and former USC Muslim Student Association President and international studies major Farheen Khan to discuss Muslims in the United States, and Jared Tirone, another USC international studies graduate who recently returned from serving two years in the Peace Corps in Mali to discuss African politics and the benefits of service.



Heather Hawn

A committed teacher and mentor, Heather served the Department as first a graduate student teaching assistant and then as an instructor of record. During this past Maymester, she created a novel and very successful course on Politics and Music, a course the Department plans to repeat in 2012. Currently, in addition to her busy class schedule, Heather is serving as an informal advisor to the student-run Roosevelt Institute of Policy Studies, a collaborative of Honors College students who structure their own class and colloquia of policy experts. Also, as the 2011 recipient of the University's Education Foundation Graduate Teaching Award, Heather has been asked to serve on a variety of panels in an advisory capacity with the Center for Teaching Excellence, as well as develop and present a workshop for graduate student instructors this past September. In

addition, she continues advising in the Walker Institute's Rule of Law Collaborative where she served as an executive assistant this past year. Heahter's research interests include both comparative and international politics, with particular interests in Latin American politics. Research related to her dissertation was the subject of a recent American Political Science Association paper, as well as a talk she gave in October at the Palmetto Forum.



Jihyun Kim

Jihyun Kim was born and raised in Seoul, Korea. In addition to the Ph.D. she earned from the Department this past May, Jihyun also holds a B.A. in International Studies with a minor in Asian Studies from Old Dominion University, and a M.A. in International Affairs and Comparative Regional Studies from American University. Like Heather, Jihyun was a very successful graduate student teaching assistant and then an instructor of record in the Department. This year, in her adjunct position, she will be teaching our courses on Economic Aspects of International Politics, Introduction to Comparative Politics, Theories of War, and a special topics course on nuclear proliferation, the subject of her dissertation.

Jihyun's research and teaching interests include international regimes and institutions, nuclear security and proliferation, conflict resolution and multilateral negotiation, globalization and cross-culture communication, the political significance of nations and societies, and regional security and major power interaction in East Asia and the Middle East. She has already published articles in *Asian Politics and Policy* and in the *American Journal of Chinese Politics*, and she is currently

working on a book project based on her doctoral dissertation, "The Questions of Compliance with the NPT Regime and Complex Multilateral Nuclear Negotiations: A Comparative Analysis of North Korea and Iran as Defector States." The dissertation project was judged exceptional by her dissertation committee, who gave her oral defense of the project a Pass with Distinction. This research focuses on explaining and predicting Pyongyang's and Tehran's deviation from the norm of nuclear nonproliferation and their strategies for multilateral negotiations with the world's major powers.

Events

Bueno de Mesquita will be the featured speaker at a **conference on "New Horizons in Conflict System Analysis: Applications to the Middle East"** on the evening of October 29 in Gambrell Hall Auditorium. Bueno de Mesquita is the Julius Silver Professor of Politics and Director of the Alexander Hamilton Center for Political Economy at New York University. He is a leading scholar in international conflict, decision-making and political leadership, a pioneer in the development of models for policy prediction, a member of the National Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a former President of both the Peace Science Society and the International Studies Association. His talk, which is open to the public and which will be followed by a reception in Gambrell Hall, is entitled "Predictioneering the Future." The talk is part of the "New Horizons" conference, an interdisciplinary conference funded by the National Science Foundation, held at the University from October 28-30, and organized by POLI's Distinguished Professor **Harvey Starr** and Professor Stan Dubinsky of the Linguistics Department.

The Department again this year organized and co-sponsored the University's **Constitution Day Annual Lecture**. The invited speaker, **Keith Bybee**, is the Paul E. and the Hon. Joanne F. Alper '72 Judiciary Studies Professor at the College of Law, Professor of Political Science, and also the founding Di-

rector of the Institute for the Study of the Judiciary, Politics, and the Media, all at Syracuse University. His interests and writings include work in legal and political theory and philosophy, judicial politics, American politics and the media, and more. He spoke at the Law School Auditorium on the evening of September 15. A large audience was treated to a talk on "All Judges Are Political—Except When They Are Not: Acceptable Hypocrisies and the Rule of Law," which is also the title of Professor Bybee's most recent book. The talk was co-sponsored by the Provost's Office and the Colleges of Law and Arts and Sciences.

Yet another Distinguished Professor visited the department during this Fall semester. **Barry Bozeman** is the Andrew Crenshaw Professor and Regent's Professor of Public Policy at the University of Georgia's Department of Public Administration and Policy. An expert on public management, organization theory, research methods, and science policy and higher education policy, he has taught at several institutions, holds honorary and visiting positions at the University of Copenhagen and Arizona State University, and has served as a consultant for a variety of federal and state agencies as well as in a variety of positions for academic and other associations, including the National Science Foundation's Division of Information Technology. Professor Bozeman is currently working

with POLI Professor **Xuhong Su** on a variety of research projects. During his visit to the campus on October 14, Professor Bozeman was the featured speaker at the local chapter of the American Society of Public Administrators' "Lunch and Learn" event, arranged by MPA Director **Mark Tompkins**. Later that day, Professor Bozeman presented a talk at the Department's Political Science Research Workshop on "How Do Men and Women Differ in Research Collaborations? An Analysis of the Collaborative Motives and Strategies of Academic Researchers."

And a fourth Distinguished Professor will visit the Department in November. On November 3, **Bonnie Honig**, the Sarah Rebecca Roland Professor of Political Science at Northwestern University and Senior Research Professor with the American Bar Foundation in Chicago, will workshop her paper, "Antigone versus Oedipus?: Feminist Theory and the Turn to Antigone, or Beyond the Politics of Mourning," with the Classics in Contemporary Perspectives Initiative, directed by POLI Professor **Jill Frank**. A renowned political theorist and author of many important books and articles, Professor Honig will also deliver that same evening the College of Arts and Sciences 2011 Ferdinand Schoeman Lecture. Titled "Antigone at the Movies: Law, Tragedy, Melodrama," this lecture will focus on the impact of Sophocles' Antigone in Germany during the mid-70's experience with the terrorism of the Baader Meinhof group. Looking in detail at a film made by a group of German directors in the aftermath of Germany's hot autumn (Germany in Autumn), the lecture will also ask how genre (tragedy, melodrama, comedy) frames our understandings of law, justice, and politics.

PSRW Events. POLI Professors **Amanda Licht** and **Andrea McAtee**, coordinators of the Department's Political Science Research Workshop, have put together an exciting schedule for the Fall semester. The Workshop provides opportunities for

faculty, graduate students, and outside speakers to share current research ideas, projects and papers. Outside guests during the Fall included Professor **Barry Bozeman**, as noted above, as well as Professor **James Monogan, III**, from the University of Georgia, who will present a research paper on November 4 on "Corporate Responses to a Changing Partisan Environment: Campaign Contributions from 1979-2006." Also appearing as a PSRW guest was Professor **George Krause**, a former member of the Department now at the University of Pittsburgh, who presented two talks, one on September 22 on "Compliance, Competence, and Bureaucratic Leadership During the Administrative Presidency Era," and a second on September 23 on "Cycles of Increasing Effectiveness in Presidential Appointments." In addition to these external speakers, POLI Professor **Xuhong Su** presented research on "Embedded Career Paths: Academic Advancement" on September 9; recent POLI PhD graduate and Adjunct Instructor **Heather Hawn** discussed her research on "The Influence of Tourism on the Political Mobilization Choices of Indigenous Populations" on September 16; doctoral candidate **Matt Shaffer** presented work related to his dissertation on economic integration and interstate conflict on September 30; and **Jihyun Kim**, a recent graduate of the PhD Program and an Adjunct Instructor in the Department, presented her work on "A Comparative Analysis of Iran's and North Korea's Nuclear Politics" on October 7.

Mexican Border. The Department helped sponsor a Mexico Solidarity Network presentation by Macrina Cardenas Alarcon entitled "On the Edge of Reason: Border Dynamics and the Spread of Violence." Ms. Alarcon spoke to a mostly student audience on September 22 about the sources of violence on Mexico's border with the USA. Ms. Alarcon initially worked as the Solidary Network's Legislative Coordinator in Washington, DC, but has spent the past five years aiding deportees and doing grassroots organizing in Tijuana.

Graduate Student News

Congratulations are in order to five graduates of the POLI PhD Program: **Heather Hawn**, **Genevieve Kehoe**, and **Jihyun Kim** all graduated in May, and **Young Hoon Song** and **Michael Fix** both graduated in August. Heather's dissertation director was Professor Lee Walker; Genevieve's dissertation was co-directed by Professors Walker and Harvey Starr; and Jihyun Kim's dissertation was co-directed by Distinguished Emeritus Professor Donald Puchala and Professor Jerel

Rosati. Young Hoon Song's dissertation was directed by Professor Starr, and Michael Fix's dissertation was directed by Professor Kirk Randazzo.

Also due congratulations are our recent MAIS and MPA graduates. Seven students graduated from the Department's MAIS Program: **Scott Hawes** graduated this past August, while **John Heider**, **Kelley L. Thompson**, **Dargan Elizabeth**, **Yupapone Vongpongsukonth**, **Stephanie Filyaw**, and **Zachary**

Hyleman all graduated in May. Nine students graduated from the Department's MPA Program: **Whitney McCrea** graduated in August, while **Jonathan Burnett**, **Caitlin Corbett**, **Andrew Dorsey**, **J. R. Eckstrom**, **Jessica Guthrie**, **J. N. McCormack**, **Hollie Tripp**, and **Ebony Woods** all graduated in May.

Melissa Beaudoin received a certificate for successfully completing the "Preparing Future Faculty Program" at

the University's Center for Teaching Excellence. Melissa is a student in the doctoral Program.

Doctoral student **Joe Chen** interned during the Summer with the World Resources Institute (WRI) and participated in the WRI's global survey of city-level greenhouse gas accounting projects based on the Kyoto Protocol's six greenhouse gases. During this semester, Joe is interning for the United Nations' Department of Political Affairs in New York City where his major responsibility is to draft the Repertoire of the Security Council, providing political analyses of the Council's activities and interpretation of the UN Charter, and advice on past and current practice of the Security Council to Council members, other Member States, the Secretariat, and academics. While in New York, Joe also plans to conduct his own research on the norm of "Responsibility to Protect." This quite extraordinary internship/opportunity is supported by the Walker Institute, the Graduate School, and the Department.

Ali Demirdas, a student in our PhD Program, has accepted a teaching position at the College of Charleston for the academic year. Ali will be teaching both an introduction to international politics class and a class on conflict and peace in the Middle East.

Clay Fuller, also in the PhD Program, recently received news that he was selected to participate in the State Department's 2011-2012 Virtual Student Foreign Service (VSFS) eInternship program, and work with the U.S. Embassy in Brunei (Bandar Seri Begawan). The application process was competitive, and Clay was one of just 150 students who will participate in the eInternship program this year. By being a part of VSFS, Clay will be among a select group to help the State Department use technology to conduct 21st century diplomacy.

Heather Hawn (Ph.D. 2011) learned that her article, "Veterans and Veteran Families in General Education," has been accepted for publication in the *Journal of General Education*. During Awards Day last April, Heather, who had previously won Departmental teaching awards, won the prestigious USC Educational Foundation Outstanding Teaching Award for Graduate Students, and so it is no surprise that, as an award winning teacher, Heather also presented a talk on "Tips for TAs" for the University's Center for Teaching Excellence on September 13, nor is it surprising that Heather was honored at the recent APSA annual conference in Seattle with a special certificate for "Outstanding Teaching in Political Science" from Pi Sigma Alpha, the national honor society. Heather is also helping the Graduate School with a lecture on "Starting Your Professional Portfolio," and will be speaking at a Palmetto Forum event, here in Columbia, on "Globalization and Indigenous People."

Genevieve M. Kehoe's (Ph.D. 2011) paper (with Professor Lee Walker) "Regime Transition and Attitude toward Regime: Explaining the Latin American Gender Gap in Support for Democracy" was accepted for publication by *Comparative Politics*. Dr. Kehoe is current a Visiting Assistant Professor at Loyola University Maryland in Baltimore.

Dr. **Athena King** (Ph.D. 2010) is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Dr. King specializes in public policy, African American politics, political parties and electoral behavior.

Mandy Liao, who was awarded a Thurmond-Atwater Fellowship in International Studies for 2010-11, was awarded an Academia Sinica Fellowship for Doctoral Candidates in the Humanities and Social Sciences for 2011-12 by the Institute of Political Science, Academia

Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan (considered the pre-eminent academic institution in Taiwan).

Jonathan Rauh, a student in the doctoral Program, has an article forthcoming in *Education Policy Analysis Archives* on "The Utility of Online Choice Options: Do Purely Online Schools Increase the Value to Students?"

Suzanne Schorpp, who will be receiving her Ph.D. from the Department in December, is currently enjoying a post-doc fellowship position in the Department of Political Science at Washington University in St. Louis. She has recently co-authored with POLI Professors Kirk Randazzo and Donald Songer, and also with recent POLI Ph.D. graduate Raul Sanchez, an article on "Explaining Changes to Rights Litigation: Testing a Multivariate Model in a Comparative Framework," in the *Journal of Politics* (73: 391-405), and, with the same co-authors, "The Support Structure and Sustained Attention to Rights: A Rejoinder," in *Journal of Politics* (73: 410-411).

Matt Shaffer was awarded by the College of Arts and Sciences the Dean's Dissertation Fellowship for the 2011-12 academic year. Matt is working on his dissertation on "Economic Integration and Interstate Conflict: Policy Substitution and Coercive Strategies," and presented work relating to that research at the American Political Science Association annual conference in Seattle in September, as well as at conferences of the Peace Science Society and the International Political Economy Society during the Fall semester. Matt's dissertation advisor is POLI Professor Katherine Barbieri.

Young Hoon Song, who received his PhD degree in August, has taken a position as a Research Fellow at the Institute of Peace and Unification Studies, Seoul National University, in Seoul,

Korea. Also, Young Hoon Song spent part of the summer at the Center for Forced Migration Studies/Roberta Buffet Center for International and Comparative Studies at Northwestern University; and he received a certificate for successfully completing the “Preparing Future Faculty Program” from the USC Center for Teaching Excellence.

Charles Wu was selected to attend the National Science Foundation funded “Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models” workshop (EITM) at the Washington University, St. Louis and the 4th Political Network Conference at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. In addition, Charles presented a paper entitled “Does Similarity Lead to

More Cooperation? Using the Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models for the ECFA Signing,” at the Annual Taiwan Conference, hosted by the Center of Asian Studies at USC in late October.

Laura R. Woliver: Profile



Dr. Laura R. Woliver received her Ph.D. in political science from the University of Wisconsin in Madison in 1986. She earned an M.A. and a B.A. (*cum laude*) in political science from the University of Colorado in Boulder. Her specialties are American politics, interest groups, social movements, and gender and politics. She joined the POLI faculty in 1985, and since the fall of 2007 has been a joint appointment in the Women’s and Gender Studies Program at USC. She is the author of two books, *From Outrage to Action: The Politics of Grass Roots Dissent* (University of Illinois Press, 1993), and *The Political Geographies of Pregnancy* (University of Illinois Press, 2002). In addition she has published dozens of articles, book chapters, and comments, a number of them with graduate students.

Laura has won a number of awards including “Mentor of Distinction” from the Women’s Caucus of the American Political Science Association, and the Marion Irish Award for the best paper on women and politics at the Southern Political Science convention in 2000. For the last two summers she has been a Centennial Fellow at the APSA in Washington, D.C. In the summer of 2011 she was awarded a Marguerite Ross Barnett Research Grant from the APSA for her fieldwork on women’s coalition’s and lobbying. She has also received two Mortar Board teaching awards.

Laura has been the national President of the Women’s Caucus in Political Science, and President of the Southern Women’s Caucus in Political Science. She has served on many leadership committees in the American and Southern Political Science Associations and at the University of South Carolina. For eight years she was the Associate Director of the Women’s and Gender Studies Program and served for an additional year as the Interim Director. She is the faculty adviser to The Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance, VOX/POX (Voices for Planned Parenthood), and the Women’s Students Association on campus. She has twice served as Political Science Graduate Director.

Currently, Laura is working on two major projects, one on the progressive movement in North Carolina and the disenfranchisement of African Americans in 1898 – 1900, the other a study of women’s coalitions and lobbying on American public policy. The North Carolina book project, a team effort with Dr. Lala Carr Steelman, a Professor in USC’s Sociology Department, and Dr. Joseph F. Steelman, an Emeritus Professor from East Carolina University’s History Department, explores the political party developments in North Carolina (and the south) through the Grange, The Farmer’s Alliance, The People’s Party or Populists, and the two dominant parties, Democrats and Republicans. After a remarkable racially diverse fusion of Republicans and Populists in North Carolina politics in the mid-1890s, which resulted in several social and policy reforms in public education, labor, and economic development, the fusion and diversity had dissipated by 1900 and African Americans in North Carolina were thoroughly disenfranchised. The study analyzes how the disenfranchisement impacted third party and progressive efforts in the area and led to one-party (Democratic) dominance in North Carolina politics for the next seventy years.

The women’s lobbying project revolves around the National Council of Women’s Organizations (NCWO) based in Washington, D.C. Made up of more than 180 women’s groups collectively representing more than 10 million American women, the NCWO has been actively highlighting the female face of many domestic social programs such as Social Security, Medicare, Title X, and Medicaid. In addition, the NCWO monitors compliance with Title IX, equal pay legislation, and other civil rights laws which impact girls and women. Laura has conducted dozens of interviews with key leaders and activists in women’s lobbying, shadowed lobbyists, and attended twenty NCWO meetings in D.C. She has been a participant/observer at more than 50 events sponsored or co-sponsored by the NCWO. The fieldwork for this project is coming to a close, and Laura is now working on the book manuscript

which examines national women's lobbying, agenda setting, and issue framing. One related offshoot of the project is that POLI doctoral student Annie Boiter-Jolley and Laura are studying the get out the vote activism of NCWO groups who "worked the gender gap" in the 2006 and 2008 elections.

As Associate Director of the Women's and Gender Studies Program, Laura implemented the newly approved multi-disciplinary B.A. degree in Women's and Gender Studies. It requires a three credit internship/practicum which Laura supervised and taught for eight years. The experience was an invaluable lesson in learning more about people in the community, their needs, and their admirable efforts to help each other through organizations like Sistercare, Sexual Trauma Services of the Midlands, various homeless shelters, tutorial programs, mentoring networks, and relief agencies. Interns in the course were always valuable innovators and contributors to these efforts. Laura's experience supervising these interns left her with deep admiration for the insights and hard work of undergraduates at Carolina and for the often unsung work citizens do to try to make their communities more humane and just.

At least once a year, Laura offers the popular undergraduate course on Gender and Politics. Other undergraduate courses in Laura's repertoire include Interest Groups and Social Movements and a course on Feminist Theory. Laura also teaches a capstone graduate seminar in the Women's and Gender Studies graduate certificate program, and a cross listed seminar on Women and American Politics. The multidisciplinary nature of her work and joint faculty appointment mean that she is on many master's theses and dissertations across the University. Laura has enjoyed her more than twenty five years at USC, especially her interactions with energized, motivated undergraduates seeking social justice and graduate students entering the profession. She looks forward to many more years of research, teaching, and service.

Faculty News

Charles Finocchiaro was invited to participate in the 10th annual Congress and History Conference at Brown University in June. The conference was founded by Ira Katznelson and Gregory Wawro (both at Columbia University) to promote scholarship on the development of the U. S. Congress, and in the past decade has been hosted by Yale, Stanford, MIT, Princeton, and the University of California at Berkeley, among other institutions. Also, Charles, with POLI Professor co-author **David Darmofal**, presented a paper on "Spatial Proximity and Roll-Call Voting Behavior in the U.S. Senate," at the Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association in Seattle on September 1.

Jerel Rosati has been invited by the University of Los Andes/National University/US Embassy/Colombia Commission to visit the University of Los Andes as a Fulbright Senior Specialist in the field of U. S. Studies during this Fall semester. The Universidad de los Andes is a coeducational, nonsectarian, private university located in downtown Bogotá, Colombia. Ranked as one of Latin America's elite universities, it was founded by a group of Colombian intellectuals and was the first university in the country to be independent of political parties or influence from the state or the church. Today, the University seeks to model itself after major research universities, enhancing its focus on graduate education and research, strengthening and creating new doctoral programs and building new research facilities on the campus. The University of the Andes has achieved wide international visibility in the early twenty-first century: it was included among the top universities worldwide in the QS - Times Higher Education classification from Lon-

don, the only Colombian university included in the scale and part of a group of only 15 such universities in Latin America.

Donald Songer has co-authored three recent publications. "Explaining Dissent on the Supreme Court of Canada" appears in the *Canadian Journal of Political Science* 44: 389-409, and is co-authored with former POLI students John Szmer (University of North Carolina at Charlotte) and Susan Johnson (University of North Carolina at Greensboro). With former POLI student Raul Sanchez, current student Suzanne Schorpp, and POLI Professor **Kirk Randazzo**, Don has co-authored "Explaining Changes to Rights Litigation: Testing a Multivariate Model in a Comparative Framework" in the *Journal of Politics* 73:391-405, and "The Support Structure and Sustained Attention to Rights: A Rejoinder," *Journal of Politics* 73:410-411.

Harvey Starr published a piece on "Conditions, Necessary and Sufficient," in Bertrand Badie, Dirk Berg-Schlosser, and Leonardo Morlino, eds., in the *International Encyclopedia of Political Science* (Sage Publications, 2011). Also, Harvey interviewed with WACH channel 57 in Columbia on May 3, 2011 regarding the death of Osama Bin Laden (in a piece entitled "Professor: Al Qaeda Weakened but Not Gone").

Neal Woods is the co-author, with former POLI Professor Ann O'M Bowman, of an article on "Blurring Borders: The Effect of Federal Activism on Interstate Cooperation," *American Politics Research* 39:5 (September) 859-884.

In Memoriam: Professor Robert “Mac” Rood



Robert “Mac” Rood

Professor Robert “Mac” Rood passed away on September 16, 2011. Mac received his Ph.D. from Syracuse University in 1973, joined the Department initially as an Instructor in 1971, and taught in the fields of International Relations and Research Methodology until his retirement thirty years later, in 2001. After retirement, Mac continued to serve the College as a Dean’s Advisor, and the Department as the Advisor to Honors College students majoring in Political Science or International Studies. The Advising duties reflected both his considerable knowledge of institutional rules and, more importantly, his concern for students; he won over the years a number of advising awards for his expertise and dedication.

During his years of service to the Department and wider University, Mac occupied many roles, including Departmental Undergraduate Director and Vice-Chair, a member of the College Curriculum and Advising Committees, and Chair of the University Welfare Committee and Faculty Senator. He taught key undergraduate courses in International Relations and Research Methods, and graduate seminars in those fields as well. In 1975, Mac published, with co-author Patrick McGowan, an important and provocative article in the *American Political Science Review* on alliance behavior in balance of power systems—an article that generated discussion in that journal (and in the discipline) for two more years--and he was the author or co-

author of a number of other articles and co-editor of a University of South Carolina Press book on *International Events and the Comparative Analysis of Foreign Policy*.

In recent years, Mac took up the hobby of dog obedience training—he especially loved golden retrievers—and became a judge for dog obedience trials. He was also an avid Gamecock fan, and the friend of many, within and outside the University, as well as a mentor and/or advisor to many grateful students. Friends and colleagues attended a visitation held at the Dunbar Funeral Home in Columbia on September 18. A memorial service will be held at Rutledge Chapel on the University campus on Saturday, November 5 at 11am.

Stay In Touch

If you know of anyone who is an alumnus of the Department, or who simply wants to be informed of what is going on in the Department, please let us know so that we can add their name to our Newsletter distribution list. Of course, we are especially interested in hearing news from alumni. Send your news or suggestions to: Professor Dan Sabia, Chair, Department of Political Science, Gambrell Hall, University of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C. 29208.



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