A note from the department head ....

Colleagues:

This is our second newsletter of the semester. To be frank, I could not be happier with the reception the first one received. Certainly I was hoping these newsletters would reach those who have been out of touch, but never did I imagine who might come out of the woodwork and respond, including professors emeriti like Rudy Tokes, Henry Krisch and others. We also heard from alumni, many of whom plan to check out the new offices when they next visit campus. For this second edition of the newsletter, we are featuring a list of placements for many of our recent graduates. (It is a diverse set of placements, to be sure!) Please do get in touch with us with suggestions on how to improve a newsletter which is clearly a work in progress. We'll see you in 2014!

-- David Yalof

Recent Faculty Publications, Conferences and Honors

Zehra Arat’s article, “Looking Beyond the State But Not Ignoring It,” which was originally published in 2006, has more recently been included in a reader, Human Rights and Non-state Actors. The book will be released by Edward Elgar Publishing in December.

Where Have Our Most Recent Graduate Students Gone?

In recent years, quite a number of our Ph.D. program graduates have landed positions as professors and/or instructors at other institutes of higher education. The list of successful placements during the past four years follows below....

2009 Craig D. Albert, Assistant Professor, Augusta State University (Augusta, GA)

2009 Scott F. Creamer, Assistant Professor, Valencia College (Orlando FL)

2009 Laura L. Janik, Assistant Professor, Western New England University (Springfield, MA)

2009 Christopher J. Paskewich, Assistant Professor, Centre College (Danville, Kentucky)

2009 Penelope Rodriguez, Adjunct Professor, Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts (Old Lyme, CT)

2009 Wesley B. Renfro, Assistant Professor, John Fisher College (Rochester, NY)

2009 Jason Rich, Assistant Professor, Georgia College (Milledgeville, GA)

2010 Robert M. Bosco, Assistant Professor, Centre College (Danville, KY)

Dr. Bayulgen also published “Giving Credit Where Credit is Due: Can Access to Credit be Justified As a New Economic Right?” in the Journal of Human Rights (December 2013), and “Two-Steps Forward, One-Step Back: How Politics Dim the Lights on Turkey’s Renewable Energy Future,” in Perceptions: Journal of International Affairs (Autumn 2013).

Prakash Kashwan and Robert Holahan have received a request to revise and resubmit on their article “Nested Governance for Effective REDD+: Institutional and Political Arguments” from the Int. J. Journal of the Commons.

Mark Boyer was interviewed by Diane Orson for WNPR’s Morning Edition on the subject of climate change and adaptation for the anniversary of Hurricane Sandy.

Beth Ginsberg is the advisor of “The Political Affairs Club,” a new organization that hopes to encourage political debate and discussion among Stamford students. The group plans on organizing events around next year’s midterm and gubernatorial elections.

Veronica Herrera has an article forthcoming in World Development (Vol. 56, April 2014) entitled “Does Commercialization Undermine the Benefits of Decentralization for Local Services Provision? Evidence from Mexico’s Urban Water and Sanitation Sector.”

Dr. Herrera also gave a presentation entitled Water Networks: Political Coalitions and Policymaking in Urban Mexico” at the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Watson Institute, Brown University on 10/17/2013.

Jeffrey Ladewig, Samuel Best and Grad Student Clifford Vickrey won the 2013 APSA award for Best Instructional Software for their website DimpledChad.
Michael E Morrell was recently reappointed as the Communications Secretary and Webmaster of the Association for Political Theory (http://www.apt-us.org/), the largest organization in the United States dedicated exclusively to political theory. At the association’s recent annual meeting held at Vanderbilt University, Dr. Morrell was asked to serve as the chair of the conference’s Plenary Session entitled Emotion, Imagination & Experience in Politics.

Penn State University Press recently released a paperback version of Dr. Morrell’s book *Empathy and Democracy: Feeling Thinking and Deliberation in the United States* (it had previously been available in paperback only for overseas markets).


Jeremy Pressman’s article “American Engagement ant the Path to Arab-Israeli Peace,” will appear in *Cooperation and Conflict*.

Dr. Pressman was also appointed to an associate editor of *Research and Politics*, a new open-access journal.

David Richards, Political science grad student Ben Carbonetti, and Robert Pomeroy of Avery Point recently published “Overcoming the Lack of Political Will in Small Scale Fisheries” in the journal *Marine Policy*, the leading journal of ocean policy studies.

Dr. Richards also gave a talk to a law seminar at Georgetown Law School called “Measuring the Strength of Domestic Statutes” on 10/16.

Jennifer Sterling-Folker and Christine Sylvester were invited to attend the conference, “International Relations Theory Today,” hosted by Ken Booth and Toni Erskine at the University of Aberystwyth’s Department of International Politics in Wales from September 11-13. Jennifer presented a paper entitled, “Theorizing IR in a Liberal World Order.” Christine presented a paper entitled, “Will IR Be Quite as Abstract in the Future?” Both pieces will be included in an edited volume.

At a November 6th ceremony, Jennifer Sterling-Folker was formally invested as the Alan R. Bennett Honors Professor in Political Science, established in 2007 by political science alumnus Alan Bennett (CLAS ’69). Bennett, managing partner at Ropes & Gray in Washington, DC, is a 2007 recipient of the Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumni Award. The professorship honors an outstanding scholar, researcher and educator who will contribute to the department’s profile, serve as the department’s Honors Director, and mentor students. The position enables the department and the Honors Program to collaborate on expanding advanced courses, enrichment programs and one-on-one research opportunities.
Yu Zheng’s article “Institutional innovation and investment in Taiwan: the micro-foundations of the developmental state” (with Stephan Haggard) has been published in *Business and Politics*.

Yu Zheng’s book, *Governance and Foreign Investment in China, India, and Taiwan: Credibility, Flexibility, and International Business* has been listed on the University of Michigan Press’ website and Amazon. The book challenges the idea that democracy is the prerequisite for developing countries to attract foreign direct investment (FDI) and promote economic growth.

**POLS Students on the Rise ....**

Rodrigo Praino presented his dissertation at the National Italian American Foundation gala. This year’s guests included: Justice Samuel A. Alito, Nancy Pelosi, Deputy Secretary of Department of Defense John Porcari, and Congressmen Pat Tiberi, Lou Barletta, Tom Marino, and Michael Grimm. Also among the Gala guests were dignitaries from Italy including Representatives from Italy’s Chamber of Deputies Francesca La Marca and Fuscia Angela Nissoli; and Italian Member of the European Parliament Elisabetta Gardini.

Thirty-six students led by Dr. Sterling-Folker travelled to the NPSA Annual Conference on November 15th to attend panels and a luncheon with Professors Virginia Hettinger, Fred Lee, and Ernie Zirakzadeh. The trip was sponsored by the CLAS Alan R. Bennet Fund and the UCONN Honors Program.

Mary Mackie and Adanna Uwazurike (seniors) attended the Student Conference on US Affairs (SCUSA) at West Point (11/2-11/3) to participate in student roundtables centered on the theme “Navigating Democratic Flows: Populations, Power, and Policy.”

Molly Rocket (junior) was elected to the Somers Board of Education for a two year term.

**Upcoming Events at POLS**

**December 2:** 12:15 pm, Oak Hall Room 408, UConn Pi Sigma Alpha & the Department of Political Science will sponsor a lunchtime meet & greet to welcome the six new political science faculty members.

**December 3:** 12:30-2:00 pm, Oak Hall Room 438, Lyle Scruggs and Paul Herrnson will offer a seminar for faculty and interested graduate students research grant funding. The session will provide an overview of research funding, its benefits, and the steps to obtaining such funding.

The Department wishes you all a very Happy Holiday Season!