

POLS News and Notes Spring 2014 (vol. 1, no. 4)

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A note From the Department Head ...

This final newsletter of the academic year carries with it some bittersweet emotions. A few weeks ago the department lost Garry Clifford, a valued colleague and long-time friend to many of us. (See sidebar to the right for the *Hartford Courant* news report). His 45 years of undergraduate teaching (and 27 years as director of graduate studies) brought him into contact with literally thousands of students, and notes have been pouring into the department from many of them recalling all their favorite Garry Clifford stories. Of course this jarring event, as sad it is, should not deflect attention from all the fine teaching and scholarship coming from our faculty and students this spring, as is evident in the pages that follow. I also want to welcome Drs. Matthew Singer, Yu Zheng and Charles Robert Venator Santiago to the rank of associate professor with tenure! And finally, if anyone is near Storrs on May 11th, please stop by our annual undergraduate awards ceremony, as we will once again take some time out to celebrate the next generation of young scholars.

-- David Yalof

Recent Faculty Publications, Conferences and Other Honors



Zehra F. Kabasakal Arat has acquired a contract with Palgrave to publish an edited book, *Uses and Misuses of Human Rights*, with coeditor George Andreopoulos. Publication is expected by the end of 2014.



Prakash Kashawn has had a forthcoming article with Rob Holahan, entitled "Nested Governance for Effective REDD+: Institutional and Political Arguments," accepted for publication in the *International Journal of the Commons*.

DR. GARRY CLIFFORD REMEMBERED FONDLY BY COLLEAGUES, STUDENTS



The following text is reprinted from the Hartford Courant story of Friday, March 28th reporting on Garry's passing two days earlier:

A University of Connecticut political science professor who died Wednesday after collapsing on campus was remembered by fellow faculty and former students as a wonderful person with an impressive mind.

Prof. J. Garry Clifford, 72, of Eastford, collapsed outside the library, and paramedics were unable to revive him.

"Many of us have worked closely with Garry for many years and enjoyed his intelligence, warmth and collegiality," Jeremy



Shareen Hertel has a forthcoming article to be published in *Development & Change* entitled "Hungry for Justice: Social Mobilization on the Right to Food in India." She also has two forthcoming book chapters. One, titled "Right to Food Advocacy in India: Possibilities, Limitations, and Lessons Learned," will appear in *The Right to Food in South Africa: New Directions for Economic and Social Policies* (University of Cape Town Press, forthcoming). Another, with Susan Randolph, is titled "The Challenge of Ensuring Food Security: Global Perspectives and Evidence from India," will appear in *Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights: Emerging Possibilities for Social Transformation*, LaDawn Haglund and Robin Stryker, eds. (University of California Press, forthcoming).



Jane Gordon will be editing two books for Rowman and Littlefield International Press. One is entitled *Creolizing the Canon*, and the other will combine monographs and edited collections under the heading *Critical Global Caribbean Thought*.



Heather M. Turcotte has a forthcoming article, "Feminist Asylums and Acts of Dreaming," in *Feminist Theory* (vol. 15, no. 2). Her book manuscript, *Petro-Sexual Politics: US Legal Expansions, Geographies of Violence and the Critique of Justice* is under contract with the University of Georgia Press in their Geographies of Justice and Social Transformation Series.



Stephen Dyson's article, "Public and Private Beliefs of Political Leaders: Saddam Hussein in Front of a Crowd and Behind Closed Doors," has been accepted for publication in *Research and Politics*. The article is coauthored with UConn honors alum and current UC-Irvine Ph.D. student **Alexandra Raleigh**. In other news, H-Diplo, the major online community of diplomatic historians and security scholars, reviewed Dyson's article, "What Really Happened in Planning for Postwar Iraq?" (published in Fall 2013's *Political Science Quarterly*). The review is here: <http://www.h-net.org/~diplo/ISSF/PDF/ISSF-AR27.pdf>



Ben Newman, Joshua Johnson, and Patrick L. Lown's article, "'The Daily Grind:' Work, Commuting, and their Impact on Political Participation," recently received mention from NPR, *The Washington Post*, Public Radio in Los Angeles, and *The Monkey Cage*.



Heather M. Turcotte, along with Tamara L. Spira, published an article in *The Feminist Wire*, "Toward a Feminist Politics of De-Criminalization and Abolition: Why We Support Dr. Mireille Miller-Young." It is available at: <http://thefeministwire.com/2014/03/miller-young-toward-decriminalization/>

GARRY CLIFFORD, cont'd

Teitelbaum, dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, said in a statement released by the university. "His tireless devotion to his students and his long commitment as Director of Graduate Studies of the Political Science Department have left a long legacy. He will certainly be missed by his many friends and colleagues."

In a [post on the political science department's blog](#), Prof. Jeremy Pressman called Clifford "an impressive scholar with a deep knowledge of U.S. diplomatic history."

"He was an institution unto himself," said former student [Jeffrey Smith](#). Smith, who is now an advocacy officer at the Robert F. Kennedy Center for Justice and Human Rights in Washington, D.C., said Clifford was one of the reasons he was able to succeed in graduate school and beyond.

In addition to having "an incredible wealth of information," Clifford was

GARRY CLIFFORD, cont'd



The London School of Economics and Political Science website features discussion of an upcoming article by **Ben Newman**, Todd K. Hartman, and C. Scott Bell on the subject of anti-Hispanic prejudice in the United States. There is a short version of the article here: <http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/usappblog/2014/03/25/anti-hispanic-prejudice-drives-opposition-to-immigration-in-the-u-s/>



Paul Herrnson published a story in the *Washington Times* about the impact of scandal on political campaigns. It is available at: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/mar/11/gray-comes-out-fighting-accusations-in-fund-scheme/> He also appeared in a radio interview on WYPR in Maryland about political debates, and on Alaska public radio about political fundraising.



Meina Cai organized a workshop on land in China at Harvard on March 8. Information is available at: <http://fairbank.fas.harvard.edu/event/why-we-care-about-land-grabbing-china-workshop-meina-cai>



Matthew Singer has accepted a visiting fellowship at the Kellogg Institute for International Studies at Notre Dame University, which will take place in the Spring of 2015. While there, Professor Singer will be working on a book manuscript looking at attitudes toward checks and balances and executive authority in Latin America. See: <http://kellogg.nd.edu/vfellowships/2014-15visitors.shtml>



Robert Venator appeared on Al-Jazeera's *Inside Story* to discuss Puerto Rico's recent debt crisis. The link to the story is here: <http://america.aljazeera.com/watch/shows/inside-story/Insiders/2014/2/25/what-are-the-repercussionsofpuertoricosdebt.html>



Stephen Dyson appeared on NPR's *Where We Live*, in a segment called "Diplomacy 101," about President Obama's appointment of campaign donors to ambassadorships. This link to the show is at <http://www.wnpr.org/post/diplomacy-101>. He also did an interview with UConn alumnus Dan Fata on the Political Science blog *The Monkey Cage*, found here: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2014/03/05/what-russias-invasion-of-georgia-means-for-crimea/> Also for *The Monkey Cage*, he wrote about *Borgen*, a Danish drama that is, in the professor's estimation, "the best television show about politics ever:" <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2014/02/02/the-best-television-show-about-politics-ever/> Finally, Dr. Dyson reviewed the new Erol Morris documentary, *The Unknown Known*: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/monkey-cage/wp/2014/04/05/getting-to-know-donald-rumsfeld/>

someone who was always willing to help his students, Smith said. "He was an incredibly quirky and wonderful human being," he said.

In an e-mail Thursday, Pressman said, "Garry was a fine scholar and a mensch."

"He presented himself as an equal partner in the learning experience," Smith said. "He was definitely someone I did and still do look up to."



Prakash Kashwan's article, "Institutional Political Economy of Land Acquisition in India," was selected for presentation at the third Interdisciplinary symposium for Emerging Scholars on India China Studies, to be held at The New School in New York on April 14, 2014. His paper, "Political Forests on Ancestral Lands: Land Rights Conflicts in Forested Regions in India, Tanzania and Mexico" was presented (via Skype) at a Workshop on the Comparative Turn in Climate Change Politics at the London School of Economics on March 21. He also posted commentary at the rainforest blog Mongabay.com, "Is 'human rights' the right approach for protecting the interests of forest-dependent people?" available here: <http://blog.mongabay.com/2014/02/23/is-human-rights-the-right-approach-for-protecting-the-interests-of-forest-dependent-people/>



Paul Herrnson was recently appointed to the Connecticut Secretary of State's Ad Hoc Committee on Developing a Voting Rights Curriculum. He has also published three book chapters. One, with Kelly D. Patterson and Stephanie Curtis, is "Financing the 2012 Congressional Elections," in David B. Magleby, ed., *Financing the 2012 Elections* (Brookings Institution, forthcoming). Another is "Political Parties and the Financing of Elections," in *Guide to Interest Groups and Lobbying in the U.S.* (CQ Press, forthcoming). And lastly, with Michael J. Hanmer, he published "Provisional Ballots," in *The Measure of American Democracy* (Cambridge University Press, forthcoming).



Heather M. Turcotte received the 2014 American Association of University Professors (AAUP) Excellence Award for Teaching Excellence, Early Career. A formal presentation is planned in her honor for Tuesday, April 29, 2014. Dr. Turcotte was also selected as the University of Connecticut's Puerto Rican and Latin American Culture Center Faculty of the Year.



Samuel Best was one of three professors to receive an Excellence in Teaching Award from the College of Liberal Arts and Science (CLAS). According to Dean Jeremy Teitelbaum's announcement, "a Ph.D. student in his department writes that Sam's office is 'often overcrowded' with students and that he is able to empower students and make them believe that they knew the material already."

Shareen Hertel was the featured participant in the Distinguished Scholar Roundtable "Human Rights Honors the Work of Rhoda Howard-Hassmann," at the International Studies Association (ISA) 2014 Annual Meeting on March 26 in Toronto, Canada. Also at ISA's Annual Meeting, she presented the paper "Explaining Hunger in a World of Plenty: The Potential and Limits of Economic Rights-based Advocacy" for the panel on "Assessing the Efficacy of Rights-based Approaches: NGO Advocacy Against Poverty."



Graduate Student Achievements



Sarah Hampson has been hired as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Politics, Philosophy and Public Affairs at the University of Washington, Tacoma. Sarah will defend her dissertation "Rights Consciousness, Rights Claiming and Work/Life Balance Policy in the United States" on May 2nd.



Jamie Huff has been hired as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Criminal Justice at Bridgewater State University in Massachusetts. In March Jamie successfully defended her dissertation, “On Southern Soil: Fiction, Violence, Identity and the Law.”



Doctoral candidate **Kristy Belton** has been awarded a Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Human Rights Studies at the University of Dayton (Ohio), starting in Fall 2014. Kristy’s dissertation (on “Precarious Belonging: Stateless People in a ‘Post-National’ World”) and her teaching experience in human rights were key to landing this highly competitive position, which she’ll commence after August 1, following the defense of her dissertation.



Jack Barry has a new book chapter stemming from his dissertation, “A Digital Sublime or Divide? The Impact of Information Communication Technology on the Poor in Latin America,” in *Digital Technologies for Democratic Governance in Latin America: Opportunities and Risks*, Anita Breuer, Yanina Welp, eds (Routledge). Routledge’s advertisement and preview of the book is available at <http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415836135/> He was also invited to give talks on his research at UConn’s Human Rights Institute Lunchtime Seminars Series on February 24, titled “Don’t Be Evil: Is Internet Access a Human Right?” and to give a talk on the same topic at the University of Rhode Island’s Political Science Department on February 27.



Caryl Nuñez and **Dr. Zehra Arat** will present a coauthored article at the American Political Science Association conference on LGBT rights in Turkey. Caryl attended the Negritude Conference on Afrolatin American Studies in March in Colombia and was interviewed by La Universidad de Cartagena radio on the political significance of Negritud today and how the movement remains alive in Latin American and the Caribbean.



Melanie Meinzer received a Critical Language Scholarship (11% acceptance rate) from the United States State Department for intensive Arabic study abroad this summer. She plans to make use of this opportunity for her future dissertation work, which will involve fieldwork in the Middle East.



Christopher E. Smith, a UConn POLS Ph.D. and now Professor of Criminal Justice at Michigan State, published an article in *The Atlantic*, “What I Learned About Stop and Frisk From Watching My Black Son,” available at <http://www.theatlantic.com/national/archive/2014/04/what-i-learned-about-stop-and-frisk-from-watching-my-black-son/359962/>



Alexander Reger has been hired as a Legislative Analyst for the Office of Legislative Research in the Connecticut General Assembly. In December 2013, Alex defended his dissertation, “Discursive Leadership and the Imaginative Vision: The Presidency of Gerald R. Ford.”

Undergraduate Students on the Rise



Junior **Molly Rockett**, a Political Science major, was named to the 2014 cohort of Truman Scholars. The prestigious national scholarship recognizes students who are dedicated to a career in public service. For more information on Molly and the award go to <http://today.uconn.edu/blog/2014/04/uconn-junior-awarded-prestigious-truman-scholarship/>



Philip Menard, a junior POLS major and Human Rights minor, was accepted to be a participant in the 2014 APSA Ralph Bunche Summer Institute. Upon completion, he will intern in Amman, Jordan with the Jordan Institute for Diplomacy, a think tank now under the umbrella of the Jordanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He had an extensive research assistantship experience with scholars at the University of Connecticut and the Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program at the Foreign Policy Research Institute (Philadelphia, PA), completing research on congressional responsiveness, voter ID laws, and human rights in international relations. In Spring 2014, he won a prestigious research award and a Social Sciences, Humanities, and Arts Research Experience (SHARE) grant, for his project with a faculty member “Congressional Responsiveness During the Gilded Age.”



Shalle Etienne, a POLS and Human Rights major, was profiled by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for her advocacy in human rights. An advisee of Shareen Hertel, she interned at Love 146, a New Haven-based NGO dedicated to the prevention of child slavery and the rehabilitation of children who have escaped slavery. <http://clas.uconn.edu/2014/04/09/class-of-2014-shalle-etienne-future-social-justice-advocate/>



Jack Zachary (POLS/Human Rights) has been selected to represent UConn at the 2104 Universitas 21 Research Conference at Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU) July 7-11, 2014, where we will present his research on “Food Insecurity in the Banana Industry.” Jack originally developed the research for his project in a POLS/HRTS course on “Politics & Human Rights in Global Supply Chains,” taught by Professor Shareen Hertel. He is a joint advisee of professors Hertel and Glenn Mitoma (Director, Dodd Center).

Upcoming events

May 1: Dr. Zaid Eyadat, Dean of International Affairs at the University of Jordan, will be giving a lecture at 12:15pm in Dodd 162.

May 11: The annual POLS Undergraduate Awards Ceremony will take place in OAK 101 at 1:30 pm. All faculty, students and friends are invited.