

Political Science Department Newsletter

Greetings from the Department Chair

Positive change is in the air. Department faculty have worked hard to develop new classes and extra-curricular activities to engage students more deeply in our mutual quest for knowledge and understanding and to build a stronger sense of community among faculty, students, and alumni. We offer this newsletter as evidence that our efforts are bearing fruit. We trust it will provide useful information to our current students and help us to reconnect with our former students, both undergraduate and graduate.



To build closer ties with our 450 majors, we are developing email lists to facilitate communications. We are also meeting with our undergraduate majors each semester to convey important information and create a stronger sense of

community (fortunately, there was just enough pizza to go around at our first gathering in May).

To reconnect with our former students, we obtained a list of names and addresses from the Alumni Center and emailed them to find out what they have been doing. Now we are working to bring students and alumni together for networking and career advising, both on-line and face-to-face. To participate in this initiative, we hope you will **attend our Homecoming Gathering on Sept. 30**. Please also take a minute to **answer the questions in the Alumni Bulletin Board** (page 4).

Although lecture and seminar courses comprise the backbone of the political science curriculum, experience-based learning opportunities such as internships and study abroad are vitally important as well. To encourage collaborative, experience-based learning, and to enrich the educational experience of our majors, we are:

- Strengthening our internship program

- Experimenting with a capstone course
- Offering more seminars
- Organizing a PSC film showing and discussion each semester
- Encouraging more faculty-student collaboration in research
- Involving students in organizing and running the Model United Nations high school conference held at UM each November.

We believe these initiatives will highlight the importance of political engagement to our students and provide a variety of means for them to become engaged.

Change is indeed in the air. We are committed to enriching the educational experiences of our undergraduate and graduate students and will work to enlist the help of our alumni in providing guidance to each successive class of political science graduates.

- Dr. Jon Tompkins

MPA Internet Program Graduates First Two Students



The Master of Public Administration (MPA) program offered its first internet course in Autumn 2001. As other internet courses were added, it became possible for students all over the world to complete the requirements for the MPA degree without ever visiting the Missoula campus. Indeed, one student whose wife works for the Peace Corp completed his first course while living in Katmandu, Nepal.

Now we are pleased to announce the graduation of our first two internet students.

Dan Dismuke, a real estate broker and high school

coach from West Lawn, PA, registered for his first UM course in Summer 2004 and graduated in August 2005. By transferring 12 credits to UM and taking 2 or 3 courses per term, Dan graduated in a record-setting 14 months. Although Dan is now poised to pursue a career in educational administration, he is considering entering a Ph.D program first.

Deb Guilford, executive director of the Northwest Ohio Waiver Administration Council and a resident of Defiance, OH, is enrolled in her final internet course and will graduate this semester. Deb is the first MPA student to complete all

of the required 36 credits on-line. Despite being a full-time administrator, wife, and mother to two teenagers, Deb bravely enrolled in two courses each semester and completed her degree in 24 months.

UM's MPA internet program was introduced especially to improve access to Montana citizens who are unable to attend classes in Missoula. Over a dozen Montanans are now enrolled, and several will graduate soon.

For more information, visit www.umt.edu/polsci or email jonthan.tompkins@umontana.edu



Kudos!



Pi Sigma Alpha (PSA), the PSC honors society, continued its winning tradition by receiving the 2005 Best Chapter Award for demonstrating extraordinary levels of activity in the campus and community. The club also won the award in 1997, 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003! PSA is advised by Dr. Grey and Dr. Lopach.

At the Chicago Model UN Conference last spring, UM's **Model United Nations Team** won three awards: Jessica Reynolds was named "Outstanding Delegate," and Kelly Kirwan and Cassidy O'Connell received "Honorable Mentions." Dr. Adams advises the team.

UM in Mexico

Each summer, Dr. Paul Haber takes about 15 students on a Mexican adventure. Students study Spanish, take seminars, go on field trips, and live with Mexican families. It's a great way to earn summer school credits.

Here's how it works: each student enrolls in first session summer school and takes a Spanish course at the appropriate level (100 to 300). Classes are taught by native Spanish speakers. The student to teacher ratio is about three to one. Each student also takes two 400 level PSC seminars: Inter-American Affairs (PSC 430) and Development Administration (PSC 463).

The program is located in Patzcuaro, Michoacan, which is about the size of Missoula. The town is known for being very friendly, with a significant indigenous population in the area and a great deal of natural beauty.

Dr. Haber says this program is his favorite thing at UM, so if you have questions or are interested, contact him at paul.haber@mso.umt.edu or 243-4862. The program can fill quickly, so if you are interested, it is a good idea to let him know this fall.

MPH Program

UM now offers a Master's degree in Public Health (MPH), which focuses on rural and global health issues. The program prepares students for public health research and practice in Montana, rural America, and developing countries. Contact:

Dr. Koehn
peter.koehn@umontana.edu

Department Newsletter

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Remembering the PSC Department's History

Dr. Thomas Payne came to UM in 1952 and was a member of the PSC department when it split from the history department in 1959. Previously, he served in Army Intelligence and earned his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago.

At a luncheon, Mrs. Mora Payne shared memories of her husband's career.

Dr. Payne was a "Rockefeller Republican," although his former students would never have guessed. He participated in the Montana legislative budget

process at the invitation of Democrats, demonstrating the respect both sides felt for him.

Payne was also responsible for the Canadian government course that used to be offered at UM. One student, Michael Laslovich, later became a PSC professor at UM, specializing in Canadian politics.

For two years, Dr. Payne took a leave of absence to teach in Nigeria, where he encouraged students to attend UM for graduate study. During these years, the de-

partment welcomed many Nigerian students into the MPA program, where they thrived.

Mrs. Payne recalled a favorite practice of her husband's: taking guest lecturers to the Press Box to unwind. Eventually, this expanded to a departmental get-together.

Thanks to the Payne family, the department offers the Thomas Payne Memorial Scholarship to a PSC student who exemplifies the academic and extracurricular excellence Dr. Payne expected of his students.

Students Explore Political Worlds

During the school year, PSC students are busy reading about political theories, institutions, history, and current events. This summer, three PSC students plunged into action instead, journeying outside Montana to experience politics firsthand.

Jim Zadick, a senior, worked as an intern for Sen. Max Baucus in Washington, D.C. As an assistant to a legislative aide, Jim attended committee meetings and wrote reports on a variety of topics.

Jim's experiences ranged from briefings with the U.S. Trade Representative's staff to pulling a U-turn through five lanes of traffic "at the encouragement of our boss" to get back in time for a vote.

Jim plans to attend graduate school. His internship left him with an indelible impression. "I entertain thoughts of running for public office from time to time," he admits.

Tyler Matsdorf, a second-year graduate student, also worked in Washington, D.C., interning at the Hudson Institute, a non-partisan research group, or think tank.

As a research intern, Tyler worked in the area of security

strategies, compiling "Executive Summaries" for use in academic articles and op-ed pieces written by the Institute's scholars.

Tyler's most memorable experience was when President George W. Bush visited the Institute.

Tyler aspires to work in academia as a professor.

"I was able to work as a host, so I met Secretary of State Rice, several Senators, and a host of ambassadors, mainly from African countries," he says.

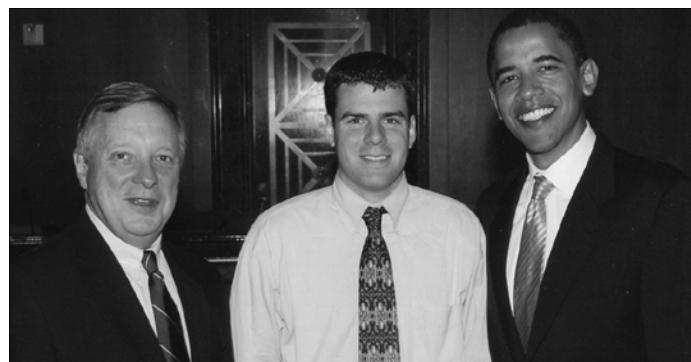
Delyla Wilson, also a senior, used her Watkins scholarship to travel to Scotland to study the G-8 protests for her thesis on the "Impacts of Non-

Violent Civil Disobedience (NVCD) Trainings on Political Participation."

In Scotland, Delyla conducted interviews and surveys to determine how groups in the U.S. differed from other countries in NVCD training.

"The highlight of my Scotland trip was the Clandestine Insurgent Rebel Clown Army," said Wilson. "They are a group that combines NVCD training with clowning training, creating a fabulous and fun form of civil disobedience."

In September, Delyla will attend the IMF/World Bank and anti-war protests in D.C. She will present her thesis at next year's Undergraduate Research Seminar.



U.S. Senator Dick Durbin (D-IL), left, UM Graduate Student Tyler Matsdorf, and U.S. Senator Barack Obama (D-IL) in the Dirksen Senate Building this summer.

Alumni Highlights

Rich Levensgood (BA '60, MA '64) owns Public Policy Consulting in Moscow, ID. He has held the positions of city and county managers in Colorado and Washington. He also worked as a principal analyst for the Colorado Legislative Council Staff and was elected County Commissioner for Summit County, CO. One day, he hopes to teach as a PSC adjunct to give back some of what he gained at UM.

Ken Toole (BA '79) is serving his second term as Helena's State Senator. He was co-chair of the Montana Democratic Leadership Campaign Committee and currently serves as the Director of the Montana Human Rights Network. He has published several articles on the anti-Indian and militia movements in the state.

Rob Morris (BA '82) is in his twenty-first year of teaching history in junior and senior high school in Idaho Falls, ID. His book, *Untold Valor: Hidden History of the Air War Over Europe in World War II*, will be published in Summer 2006 by Potomac Books.

Lindsay Remington O'Leary (BA '82) practices law at Williams Love O'Leary Craine & Powers in Portland, OR. She represents plaintiffs in pharmaceutical products liability litigation.

Leigh Kirkpatrick Prom (BA '84) taught English in China in 2002. She is involved in a program called TeenPact and coaches speech and debate for home-schooled children in the Roanoke area of Virginia.

Daniel Wartell (BA '99) graduated cum laude from University of Denver College of Law in 2003. He clerked for Justice Rebecca Love Kourlis on the Colorado Supreme Court in 2004 and works for the law firm of Hoffman Reilly Pozner & Williamson in Denver. He and his wife, also a UM alum, had their first baby in August.

Kelsie Myers (BA '01) graduated from the UM Law School in 2004 and works for Sanders County Coalition for Families as the staff attorney. She provides civil legal services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and rape. She also assists residents of Lincoln County.

These are just some of the many responses we got from our alumni. Let us know what you are up to by emailing jennifer.hathaway@umontana.edu.

Calling all creative minds for newsletter name!

It's contest time! The Political Science Department Newsletter needs a new name. We are accepting suggestions from all PSC students, alumni, and faculty. Get those alliterative juices flowing, and email your submission to jennifer.hathaway@umontana.edu (subject: *PSC Name Contest*) or contact the department at (406) 243-5202. The winner will see his or her suggestion gracing the cover of the Spring 2006 issue.

International Development Studies (IDS) Minor

The interdisciplinary IDS minor focuses on the study of political, economic, and cultural development from a global perspective. Students take a range of courses, from political science to forestry and social work. The program prepares students to work in a variety of fields. Contact **Dr. Koehn** at peter.koehn@umontana.edu.

Faculty Activity



Dr. Louis Hayes' book, *Introduction to Japanese Politics*, was recently reissued. The revised and updated third edition analyzes the years from 1995 to 1999, when Japan experienced extraordinary change.

Dr. Peter Koehn received the 2005 UM Distinguished Scholar Award for his contributions to the study of African politics, U.S.-China relations, transnational networking, and global environmental and resource challenges. He recently published an article, "Medical Encounters in Finnish Reception Centres: Asylum-Seeker and Clinician Perspectives," in the *Journal of Refugee Studies*. In September, he spoke at Trillium Health Centre's annual "Back to School Conference" in Toronto.

Jeannette Rankin: A Political Woman, by **Dr. Jim Lopach** and **Dr. Jean Luckowski**, will be published in November. It demythologizes the first woman elected to Congress by revealing how her personality, family relationships, and friendships influenced her politics.

Since publishing *Organization Theory and Public Management* a year ago, **Dr. Jon Tompkins** has kept busy teaching classes, serving as department chairman, and chasing four little grand kids.

Dr. Jeff Greene is finishing a book manuscript on *The Politics of Vice* for Wadsworth Publishing. He contributed to new editions of the *Instructor's Resource Manual with Test Items, Essential Edition* and *Instructor's Resource Manual with Test Items*, published earlier this year. He also co-authored *The Montana State Budget: The 2007 Biennium* with State Senator John R. Bruggeman.

Dr. Paul Haber's new book, *Power from Experience: Urban Popular Movements in Late 20th Century Mexico*, will be published by Pennsylvania State University Press in January 2006. The book is the culmination of over ten years of field work in Mexico. He remains active with Missoula Medical Aid, a local NGO that delivers medical services to Honduras. He will take another team to western Honduras in January 2006.

Dr. Ramona Grey directs the Department's M.A. program and co-advises PSA, for which she received the Best Chapter Advisor Award in 2004. Last year, she was invited to give the annual Lowdenslager Memorial Lecture at Western State College in Gunnison, CO, where she spoke on "Freedom in a Democratic Society." On June 14, Dr. Grey participated in the KUFM radio broadcast on "Christian Fundamentalism & Politics" for *In Other Words*, hosted by Jane Ragsdale.

In June, **Dr. Karen Ruth Adams** joined military personnel and scholars from the US, UK, and Australia at a conference on irregular warfare in Basin Harbor, VT. In August, she organized and ran a short course for faculty and graduate students on "Educating the Public about Security Issues" at the American Political Science Association meeting in Washington, D.C.

With the help of some diligent student assistants, **Dr. Gregory Koger** is writing a book on filibustering in the U.S. Congress. He is also studying the relationships between parties, interest groups, and magazines. He advises the new Kappa Sigma fraternity on campus.

Calendar

Alumni Bulletin Board

Sept. 30 – PSC Homecoming Open House, 4-6 pm, LA 344

Oct. 10 – President’s Lecture Series: Ambassador Andre Baeyens, “From Copper to Corots: The Two Lives of William Andrew Clark, Senator of Montana,” 8 pm, University Theater

Oct. 13 – PSC Film Series: *Traffic*, 7 pm, Gallagher Building 123

Oct. 24 – Spring Advising begins

Oct. 26 – PSC Major Meeting, 3-4:30 pm, Gallagher Building 123

Oct. 31 – Spring Registration begins

Nov. 21-22 – Montana Model UN High School Conference, University Center

Dec. 12—Finals begin

Keeping an email address list for our scattered-to-the-winds alumni can be tough. Want to help us out? Let the Alumni Association know your current email address. Email support@umontanaalumni.org or call the Alumni Records Staff at (406) 243-5211. Then we will be able to notify you of upcoming events, department news, and more.

Alumni, please take a moment to mail the Department, or email jennifer.hathaway@umontana.edu, with responses to the following questions: (1) Name, (2) Degree, (3) Major, (4) Year of Graduation, (5) Email address, (6) Your work, volunteer, and travel experiences, (7) Would you be willing to participate in an alum-student career advising program?, (8) Would you be willing to sponsor an intern at your workplace? Thank you for your help!

Would you like to donate to the PSC department? Send a check to **The University of Montana Foundation, PO Box 7159, Missoula, MT 59807-7159**, with a note on the memo line indicating that it is for the **Political Science Department**. For more information on gift-giving, contact the UM Foundation at (800) 443-2593, (406) 243-2593 or UMFoundation@mso.utm.edu.

Mayoral Debates

Pi Sigma Alpha will co-sponsor the Missoula mayoral debates this fall with the Missoula League of Women Voters. For more information, contact PSA president, Monica Koemens, pisigmaalpha_epsilonmu@yahoo.com.

Will you be home to cheer on the Griz? Join us for the...

PSC Homecoming Open House

Meet with friends, chat with professors, and mingle with others! Come for the conversation and stay for the food!

* *Friday, Sept. 30*

* *4–6 pm*

* *PSC Seminar Room, Liberal Arts 344*



University of Montana, Fall 2005

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“Politics is more
difficult than physics.”

—Albert Einstein

Check us out online!

www.umd.edu/polsci