



Alumni Newsletter
Department of Political Science
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
Spring, 2008

Research Collaboration
by Michael Fine

Academic writing is a particularly lonely activity in a profession that values interaction. For that reason, I favor collaborating with colleagues in academic research and writing.

I realized the benefits early in my career. I am always amused at the claim that faculty members intimidate students in class. I think of classrooms as particularly open places of great safety where almost anything can be said. I cannot imagine why a student would fear speaking to professors who live for the exchange of ideas. But I do remember my trepidation in approaching Charles Adrian, my doctoral advisor, about the idea of reviving his text on state and local politics that he let lapse when he was approaching retirement. But once he enthusiastically took up the idea, I realized how much easier it was to bounce ideas off another person interested in the same topics. The dialogs I had in my head now were more really being spoken by another with surprising twists and turns. Years before I had accused him of being a cynic, but I learned the truth of his response that cynicism is only skepticism if true. I think our book was better than his last because his ideas were bounced around by someone of a younger generation who shared the core belief that federalism is best understood as a process, but who disagreed about the soundness of those institutions that shaped the process.

Some of the best collaboration never amounts to any particular writing. When I first arrived, Len Gambrell and I began a twenty-five year debate about responsibility for the Vietnam War. I remember Pat George dropping a comment about international law and my foolish retort that "international law is an oxymoron." Several discussions later, I learned the error of that.

About a decade after my arrival here Peter Myers joined the Department and we began a routine of collaboration that has never led to anything written, but guides much of my thinking. So often I would stop by his office and start with the required "I only have a minute, but..." and find the line forming outside as we proceeded to disagree about a topic we really mostly agreed upon for an hour or more, saying what we often thought but did not hear out loud with the kind of sharp examination that we remembered from graduate school. We both have a fondness for the ideas that lie behind the action of politics, the theories of American political thought that come from the doing of politics much more than the organized thinking about it. When a Madison, Frederick Douglas or Martin Luther King acts or speaks in American politics, uniquely American ideas that are the equal of those of the great European thinkers are deep below the surface. I find that it is too difficult to unmask them myself; I need the challenge of someone else's take on the same ideas.

When I started to teach my core course, State and Local Politics, I joined with colleagues around the state to keep alive a Wisconsin government text when the original authors died. This collaboration benefits from the limited expertise on different areas of Wisconsin government. I felt comfortable writing about Wisconsin's Constitution, but when asked to also do the budget chapter I quickly learned that I was in over my head and asked Mort Sipress to join in doing that chapter. Here I learned another valuable lesson of collaboration. It is better to be a master of some topics than a writer of many. I turned the budget chapter over to Mort alone, who later passed it to Rodd Freitag. Sometimes collaboration is best in simply widening the group and I am happy that my colleagues decided to join in the project, even if we were not so closely working together. Now Geoff Peterson has joined in a chapter with Rodd. (continued on next page)



I learned another kind of collaboration when Richard Clucas was in the Department. I realized that his strength (statistical modeling) was my weakness. We began doing papers for conferences on racial redistricting, he crunching the numbers and I providing the theoretical structure to our paper. To this day I am not sure I understand parts of papers that have my name on them, but they were well received and I realized the benefit of collaborating with someone who can tackle aspects of my interests that I may never find the time or inclination to master.

When he arrived, Jim Tubbs joined many of the discussions that Peter and I had on American political thought. I coaxed him into doing a collaborative paper on federalism at the Midwest Political Science Association meetings, joining his strength in constitutional theory with mine in federalism theory. We recognized that our interests and strengths complemented each other's and so we began to write a book on American constitutions and federalism. It quickly became apparent that others had not been very thorough on the topic, so we began the inspection of thousands of historical documents, many of which had only recently been published. Jules Chan had once jokingly referred to my text with Adrian as my "magnum hopeless" (few are as gifted as Jules in his quiet way of going right to the heart of a matter), but with the Adrian book having been finished, I believe the comment may better apply to the present book. But both Jim and I have come to the conclusion that despite the fact that collaboration slows down the process, perhaps the satisfaction comes not from the finished work, but instead from the process of working on the project.

I fear retirement because it will end the collaboration with colleagues and students that livens our spirit from a contentious discussion of difficult, but important (at least to us) ideas. Collaboration is the best part of the academic profession.

Life After Work by Sylvia Sipress

What do you do after 35 years of teaching at UW-Eau Claire? How do I spend my time? I like to be busy. I have always liked to volunteer and there are many venues in Eau Claire and the greater Chippewa Valley that need retired citizens to staff the many non-profit institutions. One of the opportunities that I had in mind as time for retirement came near was teaching some new arrivals how to read and write and helping them prepare for citizenship. But before I could start, I had to undergo a program that would increase my ability to work with people who were new to the English language. I chose to work with adults who were new to the English language due to their lack of educational opportunity. Since I had adopted a child from South Vietnam and was very interested in that culture, I chose to coach Hmong adults in their quest for literacy.



The second area of interest has been working in the Chippewa Valley Museum for these past eight years. I have worked primarily in the library with the librarian Elbjorg Toban on a variety of programs offered at the museum which have contributed to the expansion of the museum and its resources. Since I have been there the museum has expanded its cultural materials and exhibits to include Farm Life, Settlement and Survival, Native Americans and the Hmong Settlement and Survival in America.

Six years ago I joined Clear Water Kiwanis, which is made up of all women. I knew some of the women who had graduated from UW-Eau Claire; others had worked in the public school system. Many of the women were still working in the Eau Claire community. Kiwanis is a voluntary group which tries to help the community by supporting the many non-profit agencies that need to exist. Young children are considered priority one. An important project is publishing materials aimed at new mothers to help in child rearing during the first years of their children's lives. Other projects include literacy, Children's Theatre, Excellence in Education, the Children's Museum, bringing meals to Senior Citizens, and the youth concert performed by the Eau Claire Chamber Association for Families. Kiwanis is a world-wide service organization of individuals who want to become personally involved in making their communities a better place in which to live.



From the Chair by Rodd Freitag

The Political Science Department underwent its seven-year review this year. The lengthy process began with a department-prepared analysis of our program strengths and weaknesses. An external reviewer—Dr. Robert Manzer, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Ohio Northern University—visited in the fall and wrote a report based on his reading of the self-study and other materials, as well as interviews with department faculty, students, and university administrators. An internal review team (Wayne Carroll in Economics, Allen Keniston in Psychology, and Lauren Likkell in Physics and Astronomy) prepared a report based on their own investigation of our programs. The two reports, along with a departmental response, were forwarded to the University Senate's Academic Policies Committee, which then conducted its own analysis and produced a set of recommendations for the Provost. Finally, the Provost met with me and has charged the department with its marching orders for the coming years.

Whew! It was indeed an involved and time-consuming undertaking. But the reviews of the department were consistently positive, praising the faculty for their commitment to student learning, impressive scholarly accomplishments, and many contributions to the university and larger community. The department's collegiality and dedication to providing the needed courses to political science and other majors was also highlighted by the various reviewers. The students expressed overwhelming satisfaction with the program and faculty. A fact confirmed by the record number of political science majors (over 200!) and minors (75) this spring semester.

Of course, the reviews also found some areas for improvement. Most notably, as is the case for higher education in general, the department must better assess whether our students are meeting the learning goals we have established for them. We obviously assess student learning regularly and thoroughly in our individual courses. But program assessment requires that the department establish specific student learning goals for our majors, measure student performance relative to these goals, and use the data to revise curriculum and practices for achieving better results. We changed our assessment plan a year ago by clarifying our learning goals and measurement tools and began implementing this new process this year. One conclusion we reached, based on the work we were seeing from our senior-level students, was that we needed to have a clearer definition of our expectations for student written work, one of our central student learning outcomes. The recommendations from the seven-year review are that we continue to develop and refine this process of assessment to improve the quality of education for our political science students.

As you can see, we spend a lot of time and effort analyzing what we do and how we could do it better. You, the UWEC political science alumni, play an important part in that process with your feedback. In recent years we have increased our efforts to stay in closer touch with our alumni. Some of you have responded with brief updates on your careers and personal lives for our "Alumni Doings" page in the newsletter. Others have returned to campus to speak to our current students about their careers. Still others have submitted an entry to the "Ask an Alum" database. If you have not done these things, we encourage you to do so. Our current and prospective students benefit greatly from this information. We also encourage you to let us know what you found most helpful about our program for your lives and careers, as well as those things about our program that were not as helpful. As you know, we have surveyed our graduating seniors for many, many years. But feedback from alumni further down the road of life may provide even more valuable insight for us as we look to the future of our programs. I look forward to hearing from you!

Ask an Alum

Remember the difficult process you went through as a student trying to determine what you wanted to do with your life and how to get there? Remember the time and energy you put into your job search? Wouldn't it have been nice to have had the opportunity to contact professionals working in a variety of careers and locations to help you learn what you really wanted in a job? The *Ask An Alum and Friends* program at UWEC gives students that opportunity. Career Services is currently building the database of alumni from all University departments and we would love to have you represent the Political Science Department. If you are interested in participating in the *Ask An Alum and Friends* program please check out their website at www.uwec.edu/career to register. For questions, please contact Robin Johengen at (715) 836-5359 or via e-mail at johengrj@uwec.edu.



Faculty News. . .



Ali Abootalebi continued with his teaching and departmental and university duties, while remaining engaged in research and community activities. Abootalebi published a book chapter and one major article. Abootalebi taught eight classes, including a new online version of his Introduction to Global Politics in June 2007 that will be repeated in summer 2008. He also taught for the 10th consecutive year his "The Arab-Israeli Conflict" in Winterim 2008 that will be taught again in summer 2008. Abootalebi sits on four university committees and represents UWEC in the Wisconsin Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies.



Randy Beger collaborated with Stephen Hill and John Zanetti on an article published in the journal *Democracy and Society*. With Stephen Hill he continues to be absorbed in researching the exportation and domestic use of police paramilitary units to restore civil order in post-conflict environments and within stable democracies. Beger also is working on a project with a UWEC criminal justice major that examines employers' willingness in rural Wisconsin counties to hire people with criminal convictions who have been imprisoned. Over the winter break, Beger was invited to the home of Len and Lori Gambrell in Mesilla, New Mexico. Len and Lori recently complete a major restoration project on a post-civil war home, *Fountain House*, they purchased in Mesilla, Professor Beger's summer travel plans include ten days of hiking, kayaking, and snorkeling in Kauai (Hawaii).



Michael Fine attended the Midwest Political Science Association meetings yet again in Chicago to deliver a paper on state constitutions and chair and discuss papers on other panels involving federalism. I was struck by the continuing debate over "originalism" in interpreting the Constitution. It seems old debates never die. I was particularly happy to see the Chancellor and other administrators attending our Constitution Day lecture and participating in a lively discussion afterwards. As Department Chair in the fall while Rodd teaches for a semester in Britain, I look forward to being on the point in connecting with former students.



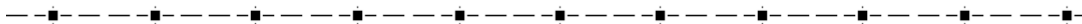
Rodd Freitag completed his sixth year as department chair and his eleventh year at the university. He once again served on committees too numerous (and dull) to mention. More interestingly, with department colleague Geoff Peterson, he co-wrote a new chapter, "Minority Group Politics in Wisconsin," for the ninth edition of the *Wisconsin Politics and Government* text. For fun, the Freitag family summer vacation took them to Washington, DC. Sons Joe (10) and Tom (7) especially enjoyed going to the top of the Washington Monument and touring the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.



Margaret Gilkison continues to monitor the PLAN 2008 Diversity Policy of the University of Wisconsin System and is exploring research aspects of the evaluation of diversity efforts and the resulting reformulation of the policy. Dr. Gilkison was recruited by the UWEC Student Senate to participate in Government Day on February 18, 2008. She spoke on Women in Politics and focused on the level of women participating in politics, emphasizing women seeking executive positions, especially the presidency. Dr. Gilkison also continues to serve as faculty advisor for the Political Science Honor Society, Pi Sigma Alpha. Finally, she continues to guest lecture each fall semester in the Interdisciplinary course, IDIS 201, Overview of U.S. Health Care System, which introduces the students to the American political arena and the process of public policy-making, with particular emphasis on the health care system and policy agenda.



Obika Gray's "Civic Politics in Jamaica" was published in "Brian Meeks ed., *Culture, Politics, Race and Diaspora: The Thought of Stuart Hall* (University of the West Indies Press, 2007). Obika was also a speaker at the UW-Eau Claire April, 2008 commemoration of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Obika is working on a book on the politics of the Workers' Party of Jamaica, and is in training for the Chicago Marathon this fall.





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Steve Hill published his latest article with Randall Beger and John Zanetti II. "Plugging the Security Gap or Springing a Leak: Questioning the Growth of Paramilitary Policing in US Domestic and Foreign Policy" in *Democracy and Security* (December 2007). This article was the culmination of a faculty-student collaborative research project with John Zanetti. Steve presented his research with Randall Beger at a Faculty Forum in April. Steve's wife Polly began a tenure-track position in the Biology Department at UW—Stout in January. They moved in March to a home in north Eau Claire. Cat and rabbit have adjusted famously to their new surroundings.



Steven Majstorovic published two book reviews, one on Basque Nationalism and the Spanish State and another on conflict in France over Muslim women wearing veils and headscarves in public schools. He is also finally making serious headway on his book project about Kosovo and its evolving relationship with the European Union. His son, Shane, is completing his first year at the University of Wisconsin-Medical School and will be working with a neurologist this summer doing spinal cord research; as a NipTuck fan, Steve's wife, Signe, suggested plastic surgery. Steve's daughter Sofia, a high school sophomore, is driving her first car, a very safe Volvo, in a scary imitation of Danica Patrick.



Pete Myers recently received, to his amazement, a notice of recognition for completing twenty years of service at UWEC. That should make us all feel old, especially those alums who took his classes in the late 1980s and early 1990s. On the scholarship front, it's been a good year. This past February, his second book, *Frederick Douglass: Race and the Rebirth of American Liberalism*, was published by the University Press of Kansas. In April, he presented a paper, "Frederick Douglass's Virtues," at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association in Chicago. Life beyond the office has been mostly good. While his wife, Paige, and daughter, Eydie (now in preschool), continue on their happy paths, the family has suffered two heartbreaking losses the past two springs, with the deaths of their beloved dog Minnie and, just very recently, their mischievous cat Pio, equally beloved, whose life can be epitomized by the episode in which, clearly meaning to provide some helpful instruction in cat-parenting skills, he surreptitiously peed in Paige's shoe. Despite Eydie's best efforts, the house seems quiet and empty without them.



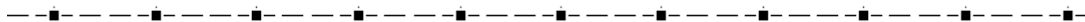
Justin Patchin survived his fourth year in the department and can't believe how fast time seems to be flying by. He continues teaching in the criminal justice program and studying how adolescents use and misuse technology. He has a new book coming out this fall entitled Bullying beyond the Schoolyard: Identifying, Preventing, and Responding to Cyberbullying. His German shorthaired pointer "Vada" (now 3 years old!), had a good hunting season pointing and in most cases retrieving upland game. Of course, if she were writing this, she would say that her points and retrieves were much more reliable than her handler's shots.



Geoffrey Peterson has been busy with collaborative student projects. He presented research on trust in the judiciary in Chicago and will be presenting his work on the use of "clickers" at several workshops next year. He will be working this summer on a project examining the impact of celebrity endorsements on voter preferences. In his spare time, Dr. Peterson is also trying to deal with the trauma of having a son old enough to drive.



James Tubbs continues to work on two books, one a study of understandings of and debates about the theory of federalism in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, and the other an examinations of common law theories of interpretation before the nineteenth century. Professor Tubbs spent many hours again this year advising UWEC students as they prepared for the Law School Admission Test and considered which law schools to apply to and attend. Jim and his wife Virginia moved this past fall to an acreage atop a hill looking across the scenic farmland south of Eau Claire. Everyone in the Tubbs clan (cats included!) enjoys the quiet beauty of the countryside.





Fulbright Scholarship Program

Established in 1946, the Fulbright Fellow Program operates in more than 150 countries with the aim of building mutual understanding between the people of the U.S. and the rest of the world. It is sponsored by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State, administered by the Institute of International Education, and is a highly competitive national award. The following two alumni share their experiences as Fulbright Scholars.

Laura Dean, '03

Laura Dean is currently in Latvia on a Fulbright Fellowship. Her interest in that country's culture and language began when she was an undergraduate majoring in political Science at UW-Eau Claire. Laura went on to earn a master's degree in international studies from the University of Washington in 2006.

Laura shares that she initially chose to participate in UW-Eau Claire's study abroad program in Riga, Latvia, not because she had a particular interest in that country, but because it was one of the only programs at the time that offered political science courses in a non-English speaking country. According to Laura, "My trip to Latvia truly turned into a journey for me. It not only opened up a new perspective of the world and its people, it opened up a new way of life for me. I decided to continue my education in international studies focusing on Russia, East Europe and Central Asia, and I chose to attend the University of Washington because it is the only university in the United States to offer a Baltic studies program and Latvian language studies."

At the University of Washington, Dean continued her Latvian language acquisition, completing the highest level of Latvian language offered outside of that country. During her graduate work, she also was awarded a scholarship from the American Latvian Youth Association, which financed her research assistantship at the Museum of the Occupation of Latvia. "I was the first person of non-Latvian descent to be offered this award and I was the first person in my department to publish a master's thesis on Latvia," said Laura.

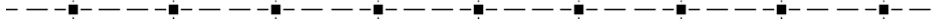
After completing her master's degree, Dean applied to a doctoral program in political science, but she couldn't get the hope of returning to Latvia out of her mind, so she applied for a Fulbright as well. When she found out she'd been awarded the Fulbright Fellowship, she deferred her doctoral study admission and headed back to Latvia.

"I really cannot express how much the program at UW-Eau Claire changed my life and hope that maybe my story can show people just how life changing these experiences can be."

John Zanetti, '06

John Zanetti is a Fulbright Scholar at SMA Muhammadiyah 1 in Pontianak, West Kalimantan, Indonesia. John is assigned to boarding schools and Islamic public high schools where, in addition to teaching English, he designed a project with a community focus that the Fulbright U.S. Student Program is now emphasizing. John said some of the community issues and problems he encounters are the need for mosquito nets, schoolbooks and water filtration units. Prior to this assignment, John worked with high school students and various grassroots groups to solve community problems in West Kalimantan (formerly known as Borneo), Indonesia.

According to John, "I've always firmly believed that people in the developing world are more than capable to work and strive for anything they desire so long as they are given the proper resources and opportunities. My earnest hope is to simply work alongside the people in my community, learn from them, and hopefully be of as much assistance as I am possibly able. Gaining their respect and trust, in my mind, is the most pivotal aspect of my Fulbright grant."



Benjamin Licht, '02

Ben received the Outstanding Recent Alumnus Award at the August, 2007 commencement ceremony

For those who don't know me, I attended UWEC from Fall 1997 to Spring 2002. After several majors, I chose Political Science after taking my first political science course as a junior. From then on, I knew that I wanted to attend graduate school in order to pursue a career in public service. My time at UWEC, and in particular in the Political Science Department, helped prepare me to achieve these goals.

After graduating from UWEC, I moved to Washington, D.C. to earn a Master of Public Administration at The George Washington University. While at GWU, I started a yearlong internship at the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO), which became a full-time job after completing my studies. Often called Congress' "watchdog" or its "investigative arm," GAO investigates the rest of the federal government on Congress' behalf, looking for ways to improve management and weed out waste, fraud, and abuse. Each year GAO recommends countless improvements to the federal government which lead to billions of dollars in savings. I am very proud to work at an agency with such a great mission. In the few years I've been there, I've helped make improvements to the operations of several agencies and have helped save taxpayers millions of dollars. For example, in a review of the United States Capitol Police's use of additional duty hours, my team identified several strategies for the agency to better monitor and manage its use of them, which led to a reduction of its salary costs by over \$1.2 million in 2006.

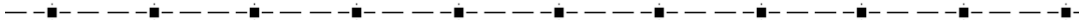
There are numerous ways in which my experiences in the Department helped prepare me for future success. However, I'd like to focus on one area of particular importance: critical thinking skills. My education and experiences as a Political Science major opened my eyes to the world around me and showed me that problems and related solutions come in shades of gray—not black and white. In addition to the coursework I undertook, my critical thinking abilities were honed and enhanced through collaborative research with Dr. Geoff Peterson. That project taught me the importance of conducting thorough research and developing a plausible and defensible argument supported by your findings. I also learned to question my own assumptions and challenge those of others. These skills are essential to my job at GAO. Our work requires the ability to quickly yet thoroughly analyze a variety of information, from policy documents to interviews and site visits around the world, and then summarize and synthesize it all into a clear and accurate story. This story, told in a logical and reader-friendly manner, more often than not concludes with policy recommendations to federal agencies and to Congress that are well-reasoned and reasonable—something that can be hard to come by in Washington. There is no doubt in my mind that my education and experiences as a Political Science major laid a strong foundation for achievement, upon which I have built an already successful career at GAO.

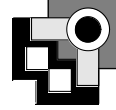
Justin Hentges, '02

I received my Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Economics from UWEC in 2002. After a brief foray into education and higher education admissions, I moved to Washington D.C. and earned my Master of Public Policy from George Mason University. I now work for the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, National Institutes of Health, part of the Department of Health and Human Services. My position is a two year fellowship where I try my hand as various administrative activities. I just started a new rotation with HHS's Office of Budget and work with a team of budget analysts on the Medicaid budget. I'm excited to get to know more about one of the country's highest spending areas. Prior to this new rotation I was working for NIDCR and monitoring the spending on our grants to outside scientists. This was a great position because I got to work on higher level policy issues and still get into the detail of the work that we do.

The thing that I love about my job is that a breadth of experiences are available to me. I have little IT training, know next to nothing about microbiological science and even less about the vast expanse of Medicaid, yet I've been able to build databases, understand the science behind our funding decisions and gain insight into a vast federal program.

I believe that my UWEC education prepared me for these types of challenges. One of the first things I realized in my Political Science 110 class with Dr. Myers was that to succeed, I'd need to have a wider grasp of the subject than what was presented in my textbook. This was repeated time and again in my classes. Just knowing what is in the book wasn't going to be enough. UWEC taught me how to ask the right questions, how to search out complementary information, and how to process it all to form an understanding of the issue. By challenging me to reach beyond the easy information, UWEC helped me to continually expand my experiences.





Alumni Doings. . .

ERIN BRANDT, '02, lives near Washington, DC with her husband and dog. She received her Masters of Public Policy from the Humphrey Institute at the University of Minnesota in 2006. Erin is the Executive Director of the Global Philanthropy Alliance, a public foundation making small grants to local organizations in Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa who use innovative ideas to promote community and economic development and youth empowerment. brandtee@hotmail.com

NICHOLL CARUSO, '01, has been the Wisconsin State Director at Progressive Majority since January, 2008. Prior to that, Nicholl was the Wisconsin Deputy Political Director for the Service Employee International Union.

KATE COOK, '04, has been working as an Associate Financial Representative with Northwestern Mutual Investment Services. Prior to her employment, Kate traveled extensively, including traveling worldwide on a Semester at Sea.

SHAWN DEAN, '02, graduated from William Mitchell School of Law in 2007 and recently passed his bar exam to practice law in Minnesota.

MICHAEL DOWNING, '01, enlisted in the Minnesota National Guard as an infantryman after graduation. Three months later he was accepted into the Federal Officer Candidate School in Fort Benning, Georgia, getting his commission in March 2007. Michael is currently enrolled in the Infantry Officer Leadership Course at Fort Benning, training to be a Platoon Leader in a mechanized infantry platoon in the Minnesota National Guard.

NATHAN FRANKLIN, '01, works in the Office of Governor Jim Doyle as Deputy Director of External Relations. NathanFranklin@Wisconsin.gov

CHRISTINA LORGE-GROVER, '03, received a master's degree in counseling from Western Illinois University in December, '06. Christina and her husband, Matthew live in Rock Island, IL with their two children, Madison and Mitchell.

HANNAH LOTT, '07, is a Legislative Aide in the office of Wisconsin Senator Kathleen Vinehout (D-Alma). lotthn@gmail.com

CRAIG MARSH, '03, is a graduate student at UW-Green Bay and working toward a graduate degree in the Environmental Science & Policy program. Upon completion of his masters degree, Craig plans to apply for Ph.D. programs. marsch22@uwgb.edu

BRYAN McQUIDE, '95, is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Idaho. Bryan began his tenure-track position in August, '07. He defended his dissertation, "Information & Interest Group Lobbying in Congress: Policy vs. Political Information" in July, '07 and received his Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. mcquide@uidaho.edu

ANDREW OETTINGER, '03, is an attorney for Godfrey & Kahn in Milwaukee, WI where he is a member of the Litigation Practice Group. Andy received his juris doctor from the UW-Madison Law School, graduating cum laude.

JAY OLSTAD, '01, is a reporter for WTMJ-TV, an NBC affiliate in Milwaukee, WI. Prior to accepting that position, he was a reporter for the FOX affiliate in Green Bay, WI.

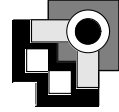
JOSHUA OTTOW, '01, received a Masters in Education from the University of Southern Maine in '05. He currently teaches Social Studies and is certified as an Assistant Principal at Mt. Ararat High School in Topsham, ME. ottowjj@yahoo.com

THOMAS RIDPATH, '66, has retired after 25 years as a State Farm Insurance Agent. He and his wife, Sharron, have moved to Williamsburg, VA where he hopes to pursue a career in real estate sales. tridpath@cox.net

CORIAHNA RUDE-YOUNG, '00, is a Community Relations Manager for the American Cancer Society. Coriahna, her husband Jim and daughter Madelene live in Rosemount, MN.

JEREMY SWENSON, '05, is pursuing a MBA degree at Saint Mary's University of Minnesota. Jeremy hopes to pursue a JD or other graduate degree upon completion of the MBA program in 2009. JASWEN07@smumn.edu

ALYSIA YEAGER, '07, is employed at Chippewa Valley American Red Cross. She coordinates Disaster Services which includes local fire response providing for the emergency needs of victims and is also in charge of Military Communication, a service that transmits emergency messages to military members overseas.

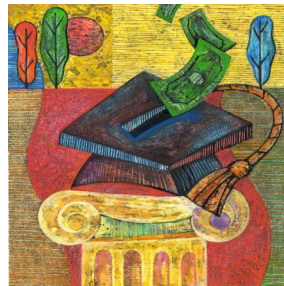


Recipient of the 2007-2008 Karl Andresen Scholarship Award

Timothy Vander Kamp

The Political Science Department awarded senior Timothy Vander Kamp from Abbotsford, WI, the Karl Andresen Scholarship Award for the 2007-2008 academic year. The award was established by former students of Dr. Andresen, professor emeritus of political science, to recognize a graduating senior who has demonstrated academic excellence and the promise of future academic achievements. Tim will receive an award of \$5,000, which will help pay for expenses at Yale Law School in New Haven, CT. Tim chose Yale because of the possibilities that will be available to him there. He said the scholarship will help him with the financial burden, but getting this award also gives him confidence that his professors believe he is up for the challenge of Yale.

Faculty members noted that Tim's ability to think across disciplines and his meta-analysis method helped him excel in his classes. "Whether I have a question regarding the content of a lecture or have another question in mind, the professors have always been available for my questions. I think many of my professors have noticed the real curiosity and passion I have for learning in general and I hope it was clear throughout my undergraduate experience."



Recipients of the 2007-2008 Karl Andresen Term Paper Award

These junior political science students were recognized for their outstanding political science papers, as judged by a committee of faculty members

Elizabeth McNabb

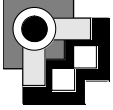
"A Comparison of Consociationalism in Switzerland and Bosnia and Herzegovina"

Kendal Gregg

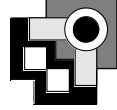
"Douglass and Lincoln: Constitutional Interpretation on the Issue of Slavery"

Jean Guthrie

"Sierra Leone"



We would like to hear from you! You can stay in touch the old-fashioned way by completing and returning this form to us, or you can email the Chair of the Department, Rodd Freitag, at freitard@uwec.edu. Finally, remember to add your name to the "Ask an Alum" database through Career Services (see page 3 for a description of how to do this.)



Political Science Alumni Information Form

The Department of Political Science would like to have information concerning your current activities. Please take a moment to complete this form and return to:

Department of Political Science
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Email Address _____

Degree _____ Class Year _____

Spouse's Name _____

Is this a change of address? Yes _____ No _____

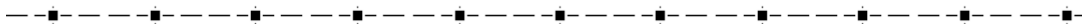
Present Employer _____

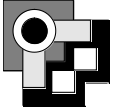
Present Title _____

Recent Activities _____

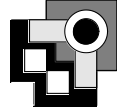
May we print information about you in our newsletter? Yes _____ No _____

If you have any suggestions for topics, contributors, or any other information you would like to see in future Alumni Newsletters, please let us know!





Donations to the Karl Andresen Scholarship Fund and/or the Political Science Advancement Fund and/or the Leonard Gambrell World Politics Fund



Donations to the Karl Andresen Scholarship Fund will be used to reward graduating seniors for academic achievement and promise in graduate studies and law school. Donations to the Political Science Advancement Fund will help meet the special needs of UWEC's Department of Political Science, needs that have no other source of funding other than your generosity. Donations to the Leonard Gambrell World Politics Fund will recognize political science majors for outstanding research and writing on international relations topics.

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Please include this form with your donation. If your employer is a matching gift company, please contact the personnel department for the appropriate form. (Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.)

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