

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
Spring, 2007



OUR SMALL BLUE PLANET *by* ALI ABOOTALEBI

The four-year anniversary of the fall of Baghdad on April 9, 2007 has come and gone, yet another reminder that the country has been at war since October, 2001--the U.S. invasion of Afghanistan came only three weeks after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. The so-called "war on terror" has drastically impacted the politics and peoples of the Middle East and the United States itself. Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq are raging on, Pakistani politics is upset by forces of instability, and Iran is feeling threatened by American and NATO forces surrounding it from all corners. Somalia remains without a stable government and a battleground for militant Islamists and foreign troops. Saudi, Jordanian, and Egyptian governments are taken aback by the rise in power of a "Shi'a Crescent," and there are no hopeful signs, despite all the rhetoric, of resolving the Palestinian problem. Israeli politics and society are shaken by the Summer, 2006 Lebanon war and Israelis seem unable to build a consensus on a permanent peace deal that could also guarantee the creation of a viable Palestinian State. And, not the least, the regional and global opinion of the United States has sharply deteriorated since the invasion of Iraq: the United States, Israel and Iran are seen by people everywhere as major threats to global peace according to a recent survey.

The Muslim populations in Europe and in the United States have also been victimized; they are targeted, profiled, and even killed in the name of either "jihad" or "war on terror." Never mind that these heartless terrorists have nothing to do with Islam and Muslims. Despite overwhelming rejection of acts of terrorism by the vast majority of Muslims, people in the West seem not entirely convinced that Muslims can be trusted. It is often overlooked that Muslims too claim Jesus and Moses as their Prophets and yearn for peace, freedom and prosperity. There are, surely, victims on all sides.

It is definitely difficult for ordinary people to make sense of it all; most people are not political at heart and not interested in foreign affairs altogether. The American public must truly realize its own potent power in resisting the abusive impulses of those in power and to enable itself, through more education and activism, to empathize with people elsewhere. The conscientious American citizen realizes people everywhere also yearn for political freedom, material prosperity, and the "good life." What distinguishes people within and across societies is not their material endowments, social standing, and/or cultural differences and preferences. It is the degree of one's commitment to the common welfare of humanity that ultimately counts. In this light, it must be emphasized that what the vast majority of Muslims peacefully object to is neither western culture and values nor modernity. The objection is about the foreign policy choices of governments in the leading western countries that they find biased, imbalanced, and domineering.

For those of us who teach Middle Eastern and global politics, the challenge is to objectively dissect the problem before us, account for factors leading to conflicts and wars, propose solutions and hope for policymakers to listen to, and perhaps act upon, our recommendations. We would like to think of ourselves apart from politicians, special interests, and the media pundits. There is, of course, no such thing as pure objectivity, as all of us are susceptible to our environmental realities, personal beliefs, values, and morals. However, outside academics, there is no other profession better equipped to deal objectively with human relations at individual, group, national, and international levels. Perhaps the biggest challenge to Middle East and global politics scholars is convincing students of the relevance of what they learn in their classes to the real world events that can so drastically shape their lives. True, the gap between academic exercise and the practice of foreign policy remains. But, it is also true that more than any time in human history people are now more capable and better equipped to determine their own destinies. The technological revolution, non-governmental organizations, and active citizenship have made people and global public opinion a potent force on the global stage. Only the advent of a truly global civil society can counter the selfish impulses of individuals, groups and states to bring solidarity among all peoples.

My personal goal in teaching what I know is to help my students realize their sense of common humanity with the rest of the world in spite of their varying personal, cultural, and sociopolitical preferences in life. Whatever lies ahead for the people in the Middle East, our students at UWEC and people across America must not see their futures apart from the futures of people in this vital region, as well as peoples elsewhere, in our very small and fragile blue planet.

FROM THE CHAIR *by* RODD FREITAG

Our newsletter has a distinct international flavor to it this year. Chancellor Brian Levin-Stankevich planted the seed for this theme during his opening remarks to university faculty and staff at the “getting in the groove” breakfast in August. In his talk, and again during his inaugural address later in the fall, Chancellor Levin-Stankevich spoke of the importance of fostering international competence in our students. It has long been an essential goal of the Political Science Department to prepare students to function in a global environment, to help students understand what it means to be global citizens. So, we thought it worthwhile to highlight the contributions of the Political Science Department and its students to this goal in our newsletter.

Our international focus begins with the faculty. As you can see from the opening piece by Ali Abootalebi, the “Faculty News” reports on pages 4 and 5, and our emeritus report from Jules Chan below, we have internationally diverse and intellectually engaged faculty in the Political Science Department. We have several vibrant and growing international programs in the department, including the World Politics comprehensive major, the multidisciplinary Global Studies minor, and the International Affairs certificate. Many of our students take advantage of the study abroad opportunities organized by the Center for International Education. And, as highlighted by the reports from our alumni on pages 6 and 7, our graduates go on to have interesting and rewarding careers in the international field.

I encourage all of you to stay in touch with us. Send an email or the Alumni Information Form on page 10 updating us on your lives and careers. Our “Alumni Doings” page keeps growing each year and this is very satisfying for us to see. We make great use of these brief reports with our new and prospective students who want to know what to do with a degree in political science. You may also consider contributing to the Leonard Gambrell World Politics Fund or submitting your name to the “Ask an Alum” program described on the adjacent page.



A RETIREMENT “HELLO” *by* JULES CHAN

Little did I realize on my retirement from teaching that I’d still be connected with the Political Science Department in so many ways: I still visit and socialize with my colleagues and the Department’s new faculty, attend the occasional social gathering, and even volunteer a lecture or two when persuaded. I have also been teaching a mini-course about the Pacific Rim countries to MBA students in the College of Business once a year with two vital stipulations: excusal from meetings and all bureaucratic paperwork. But I attribute all this to my presence in Eau Claire when I should sensibly have relocated elsewhere.

However, is retirement as good as everyone claims? My answer is a resounding YES! Imagine being able to sleep as late as you wish without fear of being late for a class or other commitment. What a pleasure not having to set your alarm and hearing it ring! Truth be told, I haven’t worn a watch since I retired and have gone half-way around the world without one.

Reading these days is true relaxation and enjoyment, and while my reading interests vary, books on WWII are of particular interest to me, especially about the Pacific War. So great was my interest that only a couple of years ago I flew to Papua, New Guinea to see some of the places where crucial battles between U.S. Marines and Japanese forces took place: Port Moresby, the Owen Stanley Range and the approaches to Guadalcanal. In addition, I have swum and snorkeled in the Indian Ocean off the coast of Perth and also in the seas surrounding Malaysia. But my favorite water sport is SCUBA diving and I have dived in various parts of the South China Sea adjacent to Malaysia, the Great Barrier Reef in Australia, West Palm Bay, Florida, the Molokini Crater off Maui and off Oahu, Hawaii, the latter being my deepest dive (105 ft.), where I was able to sit in the cockpit of an American fighter plane which had crashed into the ocean. The best thing about SCUBA diving is experiencing the beauty and quiet of the sea below: astounding coral formations and the interesting and attractive marine life--moray eels, octopi, colorful fishes big and small, stingrays and giant turtles. Night-diving is something else again. What a wonderful experience to see giant-sized clown fish (30-40 lbs.) fast asleep at the entrance to huge underwater caves. The only disconcerting part of night-diving is that everything is dark behind you. But I have yet to see a shark.

Last summer I had a hip-replacement, which went so well that I was swimming twenty lengths of the pool after two weeks. I also did a bit of jogging when I was in California and play racquetball regularly. There’s still plenty of life after retirement!

LEONARD GAMBRELL WORLD POLITICS FUND

When Leonard Gambrell received the 2002 UW System Board of Regents Teaching Excellence Award, he donated the sizeable cash award to the UWEC Foundation to establish the Leonard Gambrell World Politics Fund. Dr. Gambrell called for the annual awards from the fund to encourage lifelong learning and participation in world politics by recognizing political science majors for outstanding research and writing on international relations topics.

The Political Science Department has decided to award money from this fund for student travel to the annual spring student conference of the Wisconsin Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies. Len was instrumental in the founding and success of WIPCS. Its mission is to encourage and legitimize teaching and research on the roots of violence, on national and global security issues including ecological security, and on all factors necessary for a just global peace in the post-Cold War world. The Wisconsin Institute is receptive to study and teaching which proceeds along both traditional and nontraditional lines and provides a forum where all viewpoints may be expressed and contemplated. Dedicated to enabling scholars, teachers, and the public to improve and make more sophisticated their understandings of war, peace, justice, and environmental issues, the Institute does not prejudice judgment about these issues with a particular ideology.

Several of our students have presented papers at the annual spring student conference. Here is the theme for this past year:

The Wisconsin Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies
21st Annual Student Conference

“Blurred Boundaries: New Responses to Global Problems”
Friday, April 13, 2007 — Alverno College, Milwaukee

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Jackie Smith, Associate Professor of Sociology,
Notre Dame’s Joan B. Kroc Institute for International Peace Studies

STUDENT SESSIONS TOPICS:
Human Trafficking, Conservation, Global Warming, Genocide Prevention,
Nuclear Power, Weapons Proliferation, Global Migration, Conflict
Resolution in the Middle East, Globalization and Mexico

If you would like to donate to the Leonard Gambrell World Politics Fund, please see the donations form on page 11.



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.

Ask An Alum and Friends, co-sponsored by Career Services and Alumni Relations at UWEC, was developed to connect students with UWEC alumni and friends who are currently working in a variety of occupations. Students can search the database of alumni to learn about college and the career paths alumni have taken. Students can also receive contact information and meet with the alumni on an individual basis, or job shadow the alumni in their workplace and discuss responsibilities and other aspects of their jobs to get a feel for that specific work environment. Alumni involved in the *Ask An Alum and Friends* program can assist students in exploring career fields, developing realistic views of different work environments, and becoming comfortable with networking and informational interviews.

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, departmental, and university duties while remaining engaged in research and community activities. Ali taught eight classes that included a new online version of his Introduction to Global Politics that will be offered in Summer, 2007. He also taught, for the ninth consecutive year, his Winterim class, "The Arab-Israeli Conflict" in January, 2007. He published two articles, with a shorter third piece that will appear in Iran Encyclopedia, a Greenwood project.



Randy Beger presented a paper prepared for the September, 2006 annual meeting of the Midwest Criminal Justice Association on reentry challenges confronting offenders transitioning from prison to rural communities in northwest Wisconsin. An additional highlight was the presentation of a paper (with Stephen Hill and John Zanetti) for the April 7 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, entitled, "Plugging the Security Gap or Springing a Leak: Questioning the Growth of Paramilitary Policing in U.S. Domestic and Foreign Policy." Professor Beger's summer travel plans include an 11-day hiking trip through the Dordogne region of France.



Michael Fine reports that, after a sabbatical in the fall, his work with Dr. Jim Tubbs on their book on federalism and law can now see the light at the end of the tunnel. "My first semester off in thirty years taught me how much I enjoy going into the classroom every week. Although I complain about all of the meetings and class-related problems, there is something that is very exciting about meeting with students every week. I felt strangely out of sync the whole time. I can only hope that those of you who are reading this look back fondly on your times here and will get in touch with us and let us know about your lives after leaving."



Rodd Freitag completed his fifth year as department chair. A theme for his university work this year has been self-study. Last summer, UWEC began the process of completing a self-study for its ten-year accreditation review by the Higher Learning Commission. Professor Freitag is co-chairing the group responsible for examining student learning and effective teaching at the university. In addition, the Political Science Department is undergoing a self-study for its seven-year review. For fun, the Freitag family spent two weeks vacationing in the hot Texas sun last August. Joe (9) and Tom (6) especially enjoyed swimming in the spring-fed pools of Austin and the surrounding Hill Country.



Margaret Gilkison completed a Faculty/Student Research Collaboration Grant last fall with Hannah Lott, a political science major. They co-authored and jointly presented their research paper, "Comparative Socialization and Participation of American and Swedish Women" at the Midwest Political Science Association annual convention in Chicago last April, 2006. In addition, Dr. Gilkison was a discussant for the "Gendered Politics Around the World" poster session. She coordinated and participated in the annual "Workshop on Applying to Graduate School and Law School." This workshop, in its 14th year, is sponsored each spring by the Political Science Honor Society, for which she serves as faculty advisor, and this year drew over 35 students in the audience. She was interviewed about women's political participation in the Fall, 2006 elections and was featured on the front page of the Eau Claire Leader-Telegram for a story, "Man Laws Still in Place."



Obika Gray served as a consultant to the Jamaica Economy Project in 2006. This project, which was conducted at the University of the West Indies in Kingston, Jamaica, produced a well-received report on the Jamaican economy. Gray also served during the Spring, 2007 semester as external examiner for a Ph.D. thesis submitted to the Department of Political Science at the University of Waikato, New Zealand. Gray is currently working on a book on communist politics in Jamaica in the 1970's.

FACULTY NEWS



Steve Hill presented a paper at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference in Chicago in April with his colleague Randy Beger and a recent UWEC political science graduate, John Zanetti. Research for the project, which concerns the rise of paramilitary policing in U.S. domestic and foreign policy, was funded by a UWEC Office of Research and Sponsored Programs Faculty/Student Collaboration Grant. Readers of last year's newsletter will also be happy to know that his cat and rabbit are now getting along fantastically. There's hope for the world yet!



Steven Majstorovic presented a paper on the European Union and the Kosovo issue at the Western Political Science Association in Las Vegas. He also published two book reviews, one on conflict reduction in divided societies and the other on the fallout from the breakup of Yugoslavia and the war in Bosnia and Kosovo. He was also the facilitator and moderator for an International Roundtable presentation at UWEC on the European Union and Enlargement, and he continues to work on his book project about Kosovo. In December, 2006, Steve's son Shane graduated from UW-Madison in Molecular Biology and will be attending the UW-Madison School of Medicine in Fall, 2007 and his daughter Sofia has started high school at Memorial High in Eau Claire and wants to drive as soon as possible.



Pete Myers' professional highlights for this past year include the dubious honor of ascension to the chairmanship of the Department Personnel Committee, along with the publication of two book reviews in the *Claremont Review of Books* (Summer, 2006 and Spring, 2007 issues). In early April he completed final revisions on his book manuscript, *Frederick Douglass and the Rebirth of American Liberalism*. Last fall he ventured out to Boise again to deliver a series of lectures on Frederick Douglass. A personal highlight came with the Chicago Bears' appearance in the Super Bowl, a prelude to still greater things to come. But the highest of his highlights came, as usual, from his verbally adept daughter Eydie, now nearing three, who sometimes responds to his attempts to convince her of the goodness of her Raisin Bran at breakfast: "Daddy, I disagree."



Justin Patchin made it through his third year in the department relatively unscathed. He continues teaching in the Criminal Justice program. He presented research in Chicago, Seattle, and Los Angeles during the previous year and continues exploring the ways adolescents use (and misuse) the Internet. His recent book, *The Family Context of Childhood Delinquency*, is available through LFB Scholarly Publishing. Most importantly, his German shorthaired pointer "Vada" (now 2 years old), had a pretty good inaugural hunting season pointing and in some cases retrieving upland game. He is hoping to be able to remove the "in some cases" clause from next year's report.



Geoff Peterson has had an active research year. He presented three different papers at three conferences in slightly under three months, including his research on the use of student response systems, voter roll-off, and Muslim-American politics in the 2004 election. His submission to the *Journal of Political Marketing* is finally in press, and his work with his student collaborators has produced a bumper crop of new research projects and ideas. Dr. Peterson was also elected to serve as a councilor for the Council on Undergraduate Research, a national organization dedicated to encouraging universities and colleges to expand the scope and quantity of faculty-student collaborative research. He is the first social science faculty member elected from UWEC since the CUR was organized in 1978.



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 examination of common law theories of interpretation before the nineteenth century. In September, he gave the Constitution Day address at UWEC and discussed constitutional limits on presidential powers in times of war and perceived national danger. He raised questions about recent broad presidential claims on the scope of executive power and discretion that is unconstrained by law or courts.

MARLIN HARDINGER, '00

Hello! I am Marlin Hardinger and I graduated from UWEC in 2000. In May of 2002, I became a Foreign Service Officer (FSO) in the U.S. Department of State. All FSOs go through a seven-week orientation program in Washington, D.C. and then receive their first assignments. My first assignment was as a Political/Economic Officer in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan and then as the Vice Consul in Chisinau, Moldova. My next assignment will be in Afghanistan as a member of a Provisional Reconstruction Team.

FSOs help create and drive American foreign policy toward its objectives of promoting peace, stability, and prosperity. This includes advocating American foreign policy, protecting American citizens, and bolstering American business throughout the world. Most of an FSO's career entails working abroad in an Embassy or Consulate and having wide-ranging work and travel opportunities.

To become an FSO you must pass a written examination and oral assessment panel and complete the required medical and security checks. The process has been updated over the last few years but can take several months to complete. Many FSOs have liberal arts or business degrees, while some have advanced degrees in specialized areas ranging from law to the social and hard sciences. Knowledge of a foreign language is not a requirement to join the Foreign Service, as FSOs receive language training required for overseas assignments. During the entrance process all FSOs must choose one of five career tracks: Management Affairs, Consular Affairs, Economic Affairs, Political Affairs, or Public Diplomacy. During their assignments, FSOs may work on: environment, science, AIDS, international law enforcement, narcotics trafficking, and trafficking in persons issues, which have gained priority among American foreign policy objectives. For more information on the entrance process and FSO careers please visit www.state.gov.

The Foreign Service is a great career and excellent opportunity to use your political science degree. I encourage anyone studying political science to take the exam and consider a career as an FSO. The work is challenging and immensely interesting. If you have further questions, please contact me at mjh72000@yahoo.com.



CAROL J. RIPHENBURG, '67

Dr. Carol J. Riphenburg, Professor of Political Science at the College of Dupage in Glen Ellyn, IL, has been selected as a Fulbright Scholar. She was on sabbatical from her home institution Fall Semester, 2006 carrying out research in the Maghrib--a region of northwest Africa comprising the countries of Morocco, Algeria, and Tunisia. Carol's research project centered on women's organizations and their relationship to Islam, democracy, and the status of women. Her career has been devoted to Middle Eastern studies. She has traveled extensively in the area, done research in Oman, Yemen, and Afghanistan, published a book on the Sultanate of Oman, presented papers on the status of women and other aspects of these societies at numerous professional conferences, and published articles in major journals. Carol has three decades of teaching experience on Middle Eastern and North African governments and politics and has given many presentations in her west-suburban Chicago community on related topics. Her knowledge of French and Arabic provide her with the appropriate tools for conducting interviews and reading material in the field.

Dr. Riphenburg is an alumna of UWEC, graduating magna cum laude, and a former Wisconsin native. Her mother continues to reside in Strum, WI--located just twenty miles south of Eau Claire. Carol's years of teaching in comparative politics and international relations and widespread travel on four continents: Europe, Asia, Africa, and North America, provide a background of commitment to the importance of intercultural understanding, global linkages, and knowledge of other countries and cultures in an effort to create global citizens. Becoming a Fulbrighter is a most significant step in the continuation of this process.

JUSTIN VAN NESS, '05

Justin Van Ness was awarded a scholarship to study and teach abroad through the prestigious Fulbright Student Program. Justin, who graduated with a double major in political science and Spanish, said he was “ecstatic and really surprised” when he was notified that he was approved to do research and teach in Madrid and the suburb of Alcorcón during the fall of 2006. He was a teaching assistant for middle school classes in Spanish history, music and science. All the classes were taught in English. “In addition, I did a research project that analyzed Spain’s human rights perspective and its roots in Spanish history, culture and situation in international society,” said Van Ness. “Most importantly, however, I tried to engage in the community--joining clubs and the like. . .I did the best I could to fulfill the Fulbright mission of fostering cross-cultural understanding and friendship.”

Justin studied in Valladolid, Spain, in 2004 through UWEC’s Study Abroad Program. He cited that as one of his favorite experiences while at UWEC, along with being a student mentor for a number of political science classes and interning for the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education during the summer of 2005. “I really loved being a student mentor, but research and writing have always been my favorite things, so I jumped at the opportunity to mix the two--teaching and writing,” Justin said.



ROBERT SCHNEIDER, '74

After over a quarter of a century in academia, including 16 years as Chair of the Department of Political Science and Public Administration at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke (UNCP) and my first year as Associate Vice Chancellor for International Programs, I find myself thinking more and more of my formative experiences as a political science undergraduate at UWEC. Every professor from my era it seems, from my present and rapidly aging perspective, exerted a positive influence that remains in full force today.

Teaching my own classes over the years, researching and publishing in my field, creating a highly successful MPA program, creating and implementing UNCP degree programs in China and South Africa, and now managing the growing international programs of my campus, all seem to be connected in a timeless stream to that precious time and those special people who mentored me when I was a pup.

Today, an old dog in my present position, I think often of Pat George, Len Gambrell, and Sylvia Sipress. Whether greeting our newly arriving international students, negotiating the basis for research collaboration between Bio-Uruguay and our Center for Biotechnology, developing a teaching exchange in political science with a leading South African university or traveling the globe with increasing frequency to promote our international programs, I am more keenly aware than ever of their influence on my life.

I know my mentors would agree with me that international experiences are essential as we prepare our students for success and strive to serve our community in a multi-ethnic and global society. Students must be prepared to live and work in a world that increasingly requires cross-cultural sensitivity, knowledge of world affairs, and insight into global developments that affect us directly. UNCP, like UWEC and all leading institutions of higher education, is striving to make global connections a hallmark of the university experience for its students.

I believe my mentors would also agree when I say it is important that our students and faculty travel, study, and do research abroad. Engagement across the globe is important to ensure meaningful interactions for students with other cultures, other geographies, other beliefs, other religions and other civilizations--past and present. It is important for faculty to remain current in world affairs to ensure that teaching and research is timely and relevant in light of changing world politics and problems. It is also important to engage in service and research activities that can tie our service regions together with communities in other parts of the world to the mutual benefit of both.

Yes, I cannot help but think that everything I have done is connected to then and to them. My work today and its consequences are all connected to the flame ignited all those years ago at UWEC. Thanks Pat, Len, Sylvia, and all of the others who provided that inspiration. For better or worse, it seems to be having a global reach!

ALUMNI DOINGS

NICHOLL CARUSO, '01, served as campaign manager for Linda Clifford's campaign for Wisconsin State Supreme Court Justice. Prior to that she served for two years as the Political Director for Progressive Majority Wisconsin.

COLIN CROWLEY, '02, is a photographer/filmmaker making documentaries for the American Foundation for Children with AIDS.

JEANNINE (PIELE) FAY, '92, spent two years (1993-95) teaching English in Kazakhstan with the Peace Corps. In 1997, she earned a BS in Nursing from Johns Hopkins University and worked for seven years at the University of Maryland Cancer Center. Jeannine is currently a stay-at-home mom with her two children, Laura and Owen.

RYAN GRIFFIN, '03, currently resides in Washington, D.C. and is the director of the Instant Runoff Voting Program for Fair Vote - The Center for Voting and Democracy. Ryan will attend law school at the University of Minnesota in the fall of 2007.

KENT HRANICKA, '04, is working in the state legislature in the office of Senator Tim Carpenter (D-Milwaukee).

ERIC KASPER, '00, will be defending his Ph.D. dissertation in the Department of Political Science and completing his law degree at UW-Madison this spring. He recently accepted a tenure-track teaching position in political science at UW-Barron County in Rice Lake, WI.

KAREN KING, '72, is a Support Specialist, helping young adults find their way, with the Church Educational System. She currently resides on the California north coast with her husband and two sons.

WARREN KRAFT, '74, has earned the designation of International Municipal Lawyers Association (IMLA) 2006 Local Government Fellow. With this class, 58 lawyers have received this prestigious distinction. Warren is the City Attorney for Oshkosh, WI and currently serves as the IMLA 7th Circuit Regional Vice President.

BENJAMIN LICHT, '02, has been promoted to the position of Senior Analyst in Strategic Issues at the General Accounting Office in Washington, D.C. Ben received his Master of Public Administration at George Washington University in May, 2004.

DAN PARKS, '90, is the Assistant Managing Editor for the Congressional Quarterly.

ALLYSON (CLARK) PETERSON, '02, has recently taken the position of Director of Development for the Children's Museum of Eau Claire, where she is overseeing the new capital campaign. Allyson is completing her Master's degree in Nonprofit Management and will begin writing her thesis in the fall of 2007.

MICHAEL RICHARDS, '00, has accepted a position at Harley-Davidson Motor Company as the State Government Affairs Manager. He will be monitoring state action in all 50 states, lobbying, managing contract lobbyists, and doing selected federal lobbying.

KRISTI RYMAN, '03, is employed at Alliance Health Systems in Minneapolis, MN. Her prior position was that of Program Coordinator, Midwest Region of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

KENT SCHOEN, '03, is finishing his law degree at Northwestern University and will start as an associate at Briggs and Morgan law firm in Minneapolis, MN this September.

GAIL (NEITZEL) SUMI, '86, currently resides in Madison, WI with her husband John and two daughters. Since graduation, Gail has worked in Madison as a Legislative Aide, as a lobbyist for the Wisconsin Alliance of Cities, and is currently the State Issues Advocacy Director for AARP Wisconsin.

PATRICK THOMPSON, '81, assumed his duties as the new county administrator for Hamilton County, Ohio, which includes the city of Cincinnati, in January, 2006. He previously was employed as the Operations Budget Manager for the Transportation Department in Madison, WI and served as the County Administrator for Dunn and La Crosse counties in Wisconsin and Jefferson County, Colorado.

ZACHARY VERRIDEN, '04, has the distinction of being the first UWEC graduate to join Teach for America, a national corps of outstanding college graduates who commit two years to teaching in urban and rural schools in economically disadvantaged areas. He was accepted into the program in 2005 and began his teaching career at the LEAP Academy in Camden, NJ. Upon the completion of his two-year commitment to the program, Zachary will begin the Master of Education Program in Policy and Management at Harvard University.

CLARK WILLIAMS, '89, is a non-profit management consultant and was a recent candidate for the San Jose, CA, city council.

RECIPIENT OF THE 2006-2007 KARL ANDRESEN SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

David Jacobs



The Political Science Department awarded senior David Jacobs from Green Bay, WI, the Karl Andresen Scholarship Award for the 2006-07 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. David will receive an award of \$5,000. He states: "I think I was chosen based on a combination of my academic achievements at the university and my potential for future achievement after graduation. I feel very fortunate to have received the award."

David will use the scholarship, which will help alleviate the tremendous financial burden of law school, to help pay for expenses at Harvard Law School.

He said that he owes a lot to the faculty of the Political Science Department. "Twice before, I had considered transferring to Madison, and if it had not been for this department, I would have done so. Here you can develop a relationship with the professors that would be impossible at a larger school--and we have some amazing professors."



RECIPIENTS OF THE 2006-2007 KARL ANDRESEN TERM PAPER AWARD

Timothy Vander Kamp

"Dirty Reactions: A Look at Public Opinion During Scandalous Presidencies"

Thomas Horan

"Eastern Europe Divided: Post-Communist Transition Theory"

Kenneth Vollendorf

"Locke and the Moderation of Individualism"



2006-2007 INDUCTEES INTO PI SIGMA ALPHA HONOR SOCIETY

William S. Baker

Jacob W. Boer

John J. Gnacinski

Jean K. Guthrie

Stephen T. Hilger

Christian D. Hoel

Elizabeth A. McNabb

Laura A. Pierce

Cathryn J. Reed

Jessica L. Sager

Adam R. Scholze

Trevor G. Tinberg

Timothy L. Vander Kamp



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 go on-line to the department web page (<http://www.uwec.edu/polsci/alumni.htm>) and complete the Alumni Doings form. 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.

Checks should be made payable to the **UWEC Foundation** and sent to: **UWEC Foundation
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