

Political Science and International Relations Alumni Newsletter

December 2005

In 2005 the Geneseo Political Science and International Relations Department experienced the most extensive alumni involvement in its history. Alumni participation is not the only important development for the department, but it is noteworthy. In March 2005 six Political Science Alumni returned for a career night, providing our current students with an idea of the many opportunities that await them following graduation and how their predecessors made the transition from undergraduate student to gainful employment. The alumni listed below returned to Geneseo for the Political Science/International Relations Alumni night.

Todd Alhart'93 (Spokesperson for Governor George Pataki).

Scott D. Marchant'94 (Deputy Chief of Staff, Erie County Legislature).

Kristen Morgante'02 (Vice President at McMahon, Squier & Associates, a Campaign Management Firm).

Lynley Thompson'00 (formerly at Rochester Housing Council, currently a graduate student at SUNY-Albany School of Public Health).

Michael O'Sullivan'91 (Boys & Girls Clubs of America, Director, Office of Government Relations).

Greg Stoneberg'04 (Analyst for the Defense Intelligence Agency).

I enjoyed the opportunity to talk with our alumni about the history of the department and the many unexpected turns and successes that they experienced since leaving Geneseo. The feedback from the students was exceptionally positive. It means a great deal to Geneseo students to see the success enjoyed by our graduates. The Department plans to hold another alumni career night in 2007.

In April 2005 Professor Jeffrey Legro of the University of Virginia delivered the inaugural Mary Daley McKeown Public Affairs Lecture; this lectureship is made possible by donations from Ms. Molly McKeown '63. The title of Professor Legro's lecture was "George Bush's Grand Vision." Following the lecture the department held its annual



Senior/Honors dinner (pictured above), an occasion where the department gives recognition to the senior class and students' significant accomplishments. A portion of the costs of the dinner and the awards were made possible by the Ed Janosik Endowment. Dr. Ed Janosik (often referred to as "Dr. J" by students) taught for the Political Science

Department for eighteen years. The Ed Janosik Endowment has been supported by contributions from alumni that were matched by Dr. Janosik. Many alumni contributions were accompanied by moving stories about the impact of Dr. Janosik on their lives. The stories were some of the most inspiring testimonials I have ever read about a Professor. All Professors would treasure knowing they made such contributions to their students' lives. The department is most grateful to those who contributed to this endowment.

On October 24th and 25th David Cohen'77 returned to Geneseo to talk about his work as a prosecutor of War Crimes in Sierra Leone. David is currently Chief of Legal Operations, Special Court for Sierra Leone in Freetown, Sierra Leone



(overseeing the Office of the Prosecutor). During his visit to Geneseo David met with students to discuss careers in law and international relations (pictured above), delivered a lecture to a class, and talked with the college community on the prosecution of war crimes in Africa. Attendance at the lecture was large.

Political Science Alum Jim Leary '75 kindly provided facilities at Akin, Gump for a reception in Washington D.C. for Geneseo Alumni on November 3rd. I had the opportunity to meet Political Science Alumni at this event. Pictured below from left to right are Pierce McManus '92, myself, John Becker '80, and Robert Zysk '94. We had



planned to hold a reception for Upstate Alumni prior to the annual Wadsworth lecture in late October. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Wadsworth lecture may not occur until the fall of 2006. The department plans to hold a reception for alumni at that time.

Change has occurred in the Department this year. Marilyn Klotz, a

specialist in American Politics and Public Policy, joined the department as an assistant professor. Professor Klotz previously worked for the Center for Governmental Research in Rochester, New York, and before that in the office of former Representative Richard Gephardt. Professor Klotz did her graduate work at Indiana University. This past May, Professor Koch taught a three week course on Political Parties and Democracy at the Royal Academy of Cambodia as a Senior Fulbright Specialist. Professor Deutsch and Professor Joe Fornieri '87 from Rochester Institute of Technology published a book on Abraham Lincoln. Ed Drachman is working on a book on immigration and was honored for his development of a mentoring program that matches Geneseo students with middle school and high school students in Rochester, New York. An exhibit honoring his work will remain in Milne Library for the rest of the academic year. Professor Goeckel plans to lead a study abroad program to Moscow again in June 2006; this past June Professor Goeckel represented the department in negotiations with Hacettepe University in Ankara, Turkey for dual-degree programs. Jeremy Grace received the Joseph O'Brian Award for Excellence in Part-Time teaching. Professor Karla Cunningham is on leave for the 2005-2006 academic year. In her absence the department has been fortunate to have Marda Mutstapha from Northern Arizona University as a visiting instructor. Sue Federico continues to provide exemplary service to the department.

Student Research Symposium



During this past year a number of students were recognized for their outstanding achievements. Jessica Premo received the Jesse Rodgers award for her work at Theresa House and for being an exceptional student in Political Science. Kelly McCarthy was recognized as an outstanding student in International Relations and for her attempts to broaden global horizons. Because of their outstanding academic performance, Sean Gavin and Lacy

Zoller were given awards to aid them in their pursuit of a law degree. Courtney Abrams and Angelo Valente received the Senior of the Year Award in Political Science. Phil Perrin and Chris LaVigne received the Ed Janosik Leadership Award for service in student government and the Legal Affairs Club, respectively.

Finally, significant contributions were made by alumni who restricted their gifts to the Political Science and International Relations Department. This assistance improves the quality of the students' experience at Geneseo. Below is a list of alumni who designated their contributions to the Political Science and International Relations Department during the past 3 years. Some alumni graduated as recently as last May, others received their diploma some years ago. Some individuals contributed every year.

Michael Cairo '92

Jeffrey and Deborah Boyce '88

Ellen Fishbein'03
Scott Hinman'00
Bronwyn Irwin'97
Donna Elliott'86
Courtney Abrams'05
Douglas and Patricia Allis'84
Mary Andrews'94
Brian McGrath'96
Robert Anna'68
Karen Atherton-Ely'00
Barbara Bilodeau'86
Jessica Blum'02
Emilie Marshall'99
Phyllis Hopp'88
Elissa Morganti Banas'90
Brian Monahan'91
Julie Padak'01
Frederick Shellard'85
Edwin Yuen'99
David Koehler & Kristin Graham Koehler'91

Glenn & Kathleen Buckhout
Thomas Catchpole'72
Judy Dougherty'84
Jacqueline Norris'92
Kathleen Fleig-Clayback'86
Eric Goulet'99
John Petrella'85
Michael McLaughlin'00
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Guarino'00
Cara Hanrahan'87
William Hart'85
Andrew and Candice Healy'95
Terrence Hoey'92
Molly Irvin-Peter'79
Ellen Missara'91
Mary Ann Oliver'77
David and Christine Rasmussen'88
Christopher Wacker'93
Sarah Zambon'01

I hope you are doing well, and please stop by should you be in the area.

Best regards,

Jeff Koch
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Alumni and Students at Career Night

