

Political Science and International Relations Alumni Newsletter

December 2007

This past year I paid close attention to Division III athletics at Geneseo, and through this past-time I learned that the Women's Cross Country Team was ranked 8th nationally, the Men's Cross Country Team 20th, the Women's Swimming Team 9th, the Men's Swimming Team 15th, the Men's Hockey Team climbed to 18th, and the Men's Lacrosse Team moved up to 15th at one point. Not bad I thought; there are many Geneseo athletic teams that do quite well. If there were rankings for undergraduate Political Science Departments I believe Geneseo's would be similarly ranked: right up there with the best. The department is doing quite well; I have much good news to report, and the contributions of alumni have been most helpful.

The department now numbers 8 full-time faculty members. **Jeremy Grace** has become a full-time lecturer in Political Science and International Relations, and we welcomed the addition of Professor **Rebecca Root**. Dr. Root received her Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts; she is a specialist in Latin American Politics. In addition to teaching a course on South American Politics, she will also teach courses on Human Rights, Civil War and Conflict Resolution, Democratization, and Comparative Politics. We are happy to have Professor Root join the department and for Professor Grace to teach full-time. Of course, while the number of faculty may be at an all-time high, so is the number of Political Science (196) and International Relations (168) majors. Many Political Science classes are consistently filled to the brim, students are drawn to a faculty that holds high standards, cares about the development of their students, and is dynamic in the classroom.

On March 29th, 2007, five Geneseo Political/International alumni returned to their alma mater to participate in our career night. The event was well attended: over one hundred students came to hear Geneseo alums speak.



In addition to practical advice on how to make oneself a more appealing job applicant to prospective employers upon graduation, it is tremendously encouraging to our students to learn of the success of Geneseo graduates. Perhaps you can recall how intimidating the prospect of entering the working world was to you when you were at Geneseo. For today's students to learn of Geneseo graduates' success is inspiring and builds their confidence. The Political Science faculty enjoyed the opportunity to reconnect with former students. The following alumni participated in the career night:

- **Gregory Stoneberg** '04, Analyst - Defense Intelligence Agency
- **Stephanie Fichter** '99, Program Analyst – U.S. Department of Labor
- **Jennifer Strazza-Flynn** '95, Attorney - National Security Agency
- **Bronwyn Irwin** '97, Agricultural Economist/Development Specialist – Development Alternative, Inc.
- **Matthew Schwartz** '98, ADA - Monroe County District Attorney's Office



Left to Right – Jennifer Strazza-Flynn, Stephanie Fichter, Gregory Stoneberg, Matthew Schwartz & Bronwyn Irwin

In March 2007, I accompanied the Political Affairs Club to Washington, D.C. In addition to visits to the standard tourist sites, the students and I received a presentation by Al Fromm of the Democratic Leadership Council, a talk on International Trade at the Commerce Department, a talk on regulatory pricing at the Department of Energy, and attended a show at the Heritage Foundation. I was fortunate to be in Washington the week of the Externship Program, allowing me to attend a breakfast reception for Geneseo Alumni in the Washington, D.C. area at the Army Navy Club. Over 25 Political Science and International Relations alumni were in attendance - below are eight alumni with whom I was lucky to have my picture taken.



Eleven students in the Political Affairs Club and I joined recent Political Science and International Relations alumni at Clyde's in Georgetown the next evening for dinner. It was great fun for me to see some of my former students. The students were in awe of the alum, and a little unnerved at how early they needed to rush home to ready themselves for work the next morning.



Alumni have supported the Political Science and International Relations Program in a variety of ways.

Michael Cairo '93 came to Geneseo in September to deliver a talk in **Dr. Goeckel's** class on "British Policy toward the European Union"; and then a lecture to the college community on "American Interventionism after the Post Cold War." It was great to have Mike on campus. After graduating from Geneseo in Political Science, Michael attended the University of Virginia, receiving a Ph.D. in Political Science with a focus on International Relations and Europe. He is currently an Associate Professor of Political Science at Georgetown College in Georgetown, Kentucky.

The department held its annual Senior/Honors Dinner at the Villa on the Green on April 19th 2007. **Mark Cronin '97** and **David Case '96**, two alumni who live in the Rochester area, attended the dinner. At this year's dinner **Chris Browne '07** (currently in his



Senior of the Year in Political Science - Chris Browne '07

first year at Boston University Law School) received the Senior of the Year Award in Political Science, **Sean Cogliardi '07** and **Caitlin Morrison '07**



Senior of the Year Award in International Relations
Prof. Jeremy Grace, Caitlin Morrison '07 & Sean Cogliardi '07

received the Senior of the Year Award in International Relations, **Anna Carr '06** received the award for Outstanding Intern, **Jennifer O'Meara '07** was honored with the Rose Bachem-Alent Award, and **Marie Puccio** received the Ambassador Apartments Scholarship. There have been so many exceptional student leaders that the Ed Janosik Leadership Award was jointly shared by four students: **Neil Campbell**, **Sara Gordon '07**, **Stephanie Remick '07**, and **Andrew Sewnauth**.



Recipients of the Ed Janosik Leadership Award
Neil Campbell, Andrew Sewnauth, Stephanie Remick '07 & Sara Gordon '07

Joe Bargnesi '07 received the Legal Studies Award. The Senior/Honors Dinner is a very special event for the department, presenting us with an opportunity to honor student achievements and to bid farewell and good luck to the graduating senior class.

Numerous alumni have greatly benefited the political science and international relations programs with their generous contributions. These contributions support the Model U.N. activities, the Political Affairs Club trip to Washington, D.C., the



Legal Studies Award - Joseph Bargnesi '07

department's annual Senior/Honors Dinner, the "welcome-back pizza party", some of the costs for the recruitment of new faculty, speakers, the Honors Thesis program, faculty research, student-faculty research efforts, and much more. These activities serve to bring faculty and students together, greatly enhancing the students' educational experience. **Jennifer Whitson '96** contributed to a Women and Politics Lecture Series, and **Constance Christakos '83**, supported research collaboration involving Professor **Victoria Farmer** and IR major **Sarah McDonald** on media in South Asia. Below is a list of Political Science and International Relations alumni and faculty who restricted their contribution to the Political Science and International Relations Department during the past two years. The faculty and students are most appreciative of the generous support these Geneseo alumni have made.

Courtney Abrams '05	Kevin LoVecchio '02
Robert Anna '68	William Lupardo '71
Craig Arrighetti '87	Susanne McNally
Jesse Baldwin '00	Dennis Michalski '72
Gary Bennett '69	Lynne Mignemi '86
Jessica Blum '02	Ellen Missana '91
John Bovenzi	Jean Moreau '72
Jeffrey Boyce '88	Elissa Morganti Banas '90
Lauren Burbol '05	Maureen Munroe '85
Thomas Catchpole '72	Mary Ann Oliver '77
Alice Chin '02	Kellyann O'Mara-Convertinni '84
Janet Cowan '86	John Pekarik '98
A. Angelo DeMillo '77	Thomas Platt '90
Judy Dougherty '84	David Rasmussen '88
Donna Elliott '86	R. Michael Roggow '02
Elizabeth Esmark '74	Robert Rude '74
Wayne Esposito '76	Paul Ruggeri '84
Charles Feiner '74	Victor Scmillio '94
Ellen Fishbein '03	Thomas Shanahan '74
Robert Goeckel	David Shaw '76
Erik Goergen '02	Frederick Shellard '85
Eric Goulet '99	Donald Sigwalt '97
Kristin Graham Koehler '91	William Starr '00
William Hart '85	Gregory Stoneberg '04
Candice Healy '95	Jennifer Strazza-Flynn '95
Amy Hemenway '98	Gregory Talcott '68

Scott Hinman '00
Molly Irvin-Peter '79
Bronwyn Irwin '97
Brian Jerose '94
Mark Kimberly '82
Emily Kochanny '01
Patrick Lawler '06
Eddie Lee '76

Michael Tantillo '74
James Thompson '71
Thomas VanDerhoff '88
Angela Warner '80
Jennifer Whitson '96
Thomas Young '77
Edwin Yuen '99

Bronwyn Irwin '97 works to make the world a better place, and for that reason, she is the recipient of the 2007 Geneseo Outstanding Young Alum award.

Bronwyn is an agricultural economist and development specialist at the consulting firm DAI, Development



Alternative Incorporated. In her role as Program Coordinator for the Rural and Agricultural Incomes with Sustainable Environment Plus Indefinite Quantity Contract, Bronwyn provides technical direction to design, implement, and monitor locally appropriate interventions that promote rural prosperity, while ensuring sustainable use of natural resources. In Malawi, Bronwyn conducted a sector-wide review of commercial opportunities for traditional use plant products, identifying key species, potential marketing channels, and means of protecting the resource base. Bronwyn has done research and designed agribusiness programs focused on value chain development in Macedonia, Afghanistan, and Ethiopia. She coordinates agriculture and HIV/AIDS professionals at DAI to create and implement a multisectoral response to HIV/AIDS. In Ethiopia, Bronwyn provides technical support to an urban home garden program designed to increase the income and improve the nutritional status of HIV/AIDS-affected women. Earlier, Bronwyn served as Technical Advisor to the USAID-funded Food Security Initiative in Guinea, where she developed a monitoring and evaluation system to assess the impact of agricultural programs.

In addition to her Bachelor of Arts in International Relations and Spanish from SUNY Geneseo she also has a Master of Science in Agricultural Economics from Michigan State University. She has received numerous scholarships and fellowships including the International Foundation for Education and Self-Help Africare Fellow in Guinea and the Foreign Language and Area Studies Africa Fellow from the United States Department of Education. She speaks fluent French and Spanish and is learning Italian. When she

is not helping across the world, she lives in Washington, D.C. where she assists with the Geneseo Alumni Association Externship, is an Alumni Career Partner and is a Class of 1997 10th Reunion Volunteer.

Faculty Activities

Professor Ed Drachman, in collaboration with Professor Robert Langran of Villanova University, published the second edition of You Decide! Controversial Cases in American Politics (Rowman & Littlefield, 2008). **Chris Browne '07** and **Liz Garner '07** helped research and write two of the case studies. Professor Drachman also wrote an article speculating on the future direction of U.S. policy toward Cuba in the post-Fidel era. In addition, Professor Drachman continues to supervise about ten Geneseo student volunteers each year to help at-risk youngsters in the Rochester City School District. Professor Drachman is now in his ninth year of tutoring reading to third grade students in School 45 in Rochester. In October Professor Drachman served as faculty advisor to the Model UN Club at the simulation in Washington sponsored by Georgetown University. A life-long Boston sports fan, Professor Drachman is (again!) basking in the glow of a second Red Sox world championship and is rooting for the New England Patriots to win another Super Bowl.

This past year **Professor Marilyn Klotz** oversaw 2 honors theses: **Kathryn Irving '07** undertook a thesis on hazing in college athletics, and **Connie Kaplin '07** compared abstinence-only sex education with more comprehensive sex education curriculum based on STD and pregnancy rates. Professor Klotz also worked with a student research assistant in a preliminary study of the social safety net for low-income families and individuals in Livingston County. Professor Klotz and her husband welcomed their new son Christopher into their family on May 1 2007. They love being parents and are thoroughly enjoying watching Christopher grow and learn.

Jeremy Grace became the coordinator of the International Relations major and added courses on African Politics and Failed States to his teaching rotation. This past year he created a two-day training program for the International Organization for Migration that provides guidelines and implementation advice for national election management agencies and inter-governmental organizations working on post-conflict elections. He presented the first training in Brussels, Belgium for the European Commission in May, and plans to conduct training in Colombia, Nepal, and Angola.

Three Geneseo Political Science/International Relations students provided assistance: **Caitlin Morrison '07**, **Greg Silverman '07**, and **Kseniya Popov**. Professor Grace gave a lecture on managing elections in fragile states at the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University, and presented a paper on the political rights of internally displaced persons commissioned by the Brookings Institution, again with substantial research assistance from Geneseo PLSC/IR senior students **Kseniya Popov** and **Anna Sperduti**. The paper will appear in an edited volume to be published by the American Society of International Law in late 2007. He still enjoys playing with his dogs and strumming a few notes on the guitar.

Assistant Professor **Victoria Farmer** was Faculty Advisor for the Model UN trip to McGill University, Montreal. In November 2006 she spoke on "Track-Two Dialogue, Media Images of the 'Other,' and Confidence Building in the Indo-Pakistani Relationship," for Geneseo's chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. She presented two papers: "Citizen and Consumer: Constitutional Issues Regarding Media, Censorship, and Freedom of Information in India," at the October 2007 36th Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and "Locating Media Policies in South Asia" at the October 2007 annual meeting of the New York Conference on Asian Studies, SUNY-Binghamton. She is also the first recipient of the CC Faculty/Student Research Award, an alumna grant to facilitate close research interaction between a faculty member and department major. She is working with IR major **Sarah McDonald** on a project on "Nationalism, Globalization, and the Construction of Media Policies in South Asia." In the summer, she spent two weeks conducting research at the library of the University of Pennsylvania, but also had some fun with three weekend camping trips at Pennsylvania State Parks.

Professor **Robert Goeckel** presented a paper at this year's Slavic Studies Association meeting in New Orleans; he also plans to teach a course on Russian Politics and History in Moscow this forthcoming June. He spends much time with his wife and son Andrew.

Professor **Jeffrey Koch** was on sabbatical for the Spring 2007 semester, working on a project that examines the reasons for the decline of the personal vote in contemporary House elections. In June he delivered 6 lectures in Athens, Greece on recent American electoral history, and in September delivered a paper on socio-economic mobility and

partisanship at the conference of the American Political Science Association. The academic journal *Political Research Quarterly* will publish his article on "Campaign Advertisements Impact on Citizen Certainty and Knowledge of Candidates' Ideological Positions." He enjoys spending time with his family.

The secretary of the department, **Diane Lounsbury**, continues to work diligently to keep abreast of the current needs of students and faculty alike. Her time away from the department is spent working along side her husband doing renovation projects, and eagerly looks forward to the graduation of her son from Albany Law School and daughter from SUNY Brockport, both scheduled for May '08!

Professor **Kenneth Deutsch** recently completed another book co-authored with **Joe Fornieri '87** entitled, An Invitation to Political Thought. He plans to begin work on a project that will compare free speech policies in Canada, England, Germany, and the United States.

The department is looking forward to a number of significant events in 2008. On April 9, 2008, **Karen Beckwith**, Flora Stone Mather Professor of Political Science at Case Western Reserve University will visit Geneseo to deliver this year's lecture on Women and Politics. Professor Beckwith is the author of several books on gender, politics, and American democracy. If you are in the upstate area please try to attend. On April 23rd, at 4:00 in Newton 201, Professor **James Campbell** of SUNY-Buffalo will deliver a lecture on American Presidential elections. Professor Campbell is a nationally recognized expert on American Elections and the President of Pi Sigma Alpha, the national Political Science Honors Society. By April, the major party candidates will probably be known, public attention will be even more strongly focused on the 2008 elections than is the case as I now write. Again, if you are in the upstate New York area and would like to attend this talk please do, and please drop me a line so I know you will be there. In January 2008 students will attend the McGill University Model U.N. Simulation, and in February 2008 students will also attend a Model U.N. exercise at Harvard University. On April 22, 2008, students will present their research at G.R.E.A.T. Day, and on April 23rd the department will hold its annual Senior/Honors Dinner.

Alumni contributions allowed the department to send International Relations junior, Barbara Vigna, to the Student Conference on United States Affairs (SCUSA) at



the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY. SCUSA is a student forum to discuss current foreign policy issues. SCUSA is the largest conference of its kind in the United States. Ms. Vigna said that the conference “provided a stimulating learning environment from which I was able to develop a much more coherent understanding of U.S. policy in the Middle East, its causes, objectives, realities, and ideas of dealing with the complex and dynamic situations that have succeeded and perpetuate with United States involvement. Students attending SCUSA come from all over the United States, and a few from Europe and Canada attend as well.” In addition to interacting with some of the best students and professors from throughout the world with an interest in International Affairs, Barbara was able to hear four-star General John Philip Abizaid, head of U.S. Forces in the Mideast (including Iraq) from 2003 to 2007, discuss U.S. Policy in the Mideast.

Last but not least, the Political Science Department notes that Ed (Dr. J) Janosik will soon celebrate his 90th (!) birthday with a party in the Washington D.C. area this month. Dr. J is still going strong;



*Warmest
Regards
for a
Happy
Birthday!*

occasionally prompting a commotion with his witty comments on current events. You may send Dr. J a note to help him and his family commemorate his birthday at the address below:

Edward Janosik
c/o Griffin
7206 Ridgewood Avenue
Chevy Chase, MD 20815



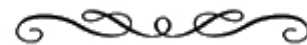
Pi Sigma Alpha Inductees - Spring 07



1st Row L to R: Stephan Tourloukis, Andrew Sewnauth, Melissa Rice, Holly Klopchin, Andrew Laine; 2nd Row L to R: Jeff Beadnell, Brendan See, Michael Bagel, Connie Kaplin, Bethany Hawke & Joe Bargnesi



IR Students at Honors Dinner: Olayinka Oyake, Kenny Laughlin, Marie Puccio, Alexandra Pifher & Chad Salitan



*We wish you a most enjoyable holiday
season and a wonderful New Year.*

Best Wishes,

Jeffrey W. Koch

Jeffrey Koch
Professor and Chair
Political Science & International Relations



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UPCOMING EVENTS – 2008

January 24 – 27	Model UN attends McGill University, Montreal, Quebec
February 14 – 17	Model UN attends Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
April 9	Women in Politics Lecture – Karen Beckwith Flora Stone Mather Professor of Political Science 1:30 pm – Newton 201
April 22	G.R.E.A.T. Day Presentations – campus wide
April 23	American Presidential Elections Lecture – James Campbell President Elect – Pi Sigma Alpha 4:00 – 5:00 pm – Newton 201
April 23	Annual Senior Honors Dinner – Villa on the Green 5:00 – 6:00 pm – Cocktails 6:00 pm – Dinner, Presentations & Awards

The department's website is continuing to undergo significant revision, with the most important change being the addition of an alumni wiki. Please visit us online at www.polisci.geneseo.edu and join other Political Science and International Relations alumni who have provided information about themselves. Directions for its use are provided through our website.