



Political Statements

A Political Science Department Newsletter

Criminal Justice
International Relations

Legal Studies
Political Science
Public Administration

Master's in Political Science
Master's in Public Administration

The Chair's Message

Ten Years Later, as our nation reflects on the decade that has passed since the terrorist attack that we now simply call 9/11, I'm reminded of my own experiences that morning and in the time that followed. There is a very special relationship between this tragedy and an academic department whose job is to study and educate others about the world of politics.

For me, 9/11 began at the first floor elevator in Butte Hall, a little before 8 a.m. I was stepping into the elevator and Professor (now Emeritus) Stafford Thomas was stepping out. "There's been an attack on the World Trade Center. It's terrible. It was al-Qaeda. Go turn on a television." I tried to comprehend what he was telling me. As Professor Thomas was our department's expert in strategic intelligence, I was certainly prepared to believe him. But I had never heard of this "Al Kyda" fellow and couldn't understand the magnitude of what I had just learned.

My early morning State Government class was a jumble of partial information and confusion. As a group, we shared what we'd learned on the Internet and television news reports. With memories of the Atlanta Olympics and Oklahoma City, we cautioned each other about jumping to conclusions. We didn't



Political Science Chair,
Charles C. Turner

know who had done this or why or what might happen next. We were afraid.

The day moved on and the towers fell and classes were cancelled. Nearly all government buildings—the CSU included—were shut down in fear of another attack. We went back to our houses and turned on our televisions and sat numbly before them. Students lost loved ones. Faculty members tried to put the events in perspective—sometimes meeting with a harsh reception. Vigils were held.

As the months and years passed, the Political Science Department continued to reflect on 9/11 and the difficult choices our country faced as a result. Faculty members engaged in debates, student clubs held forums, and nearly every classroom reflected on the connection between a terrorist attack and the world of politics. We examined the history of American foreign policy and the role of the United Nations. We studied presidential war powers and military spending. We studied the constitutionality of detaining enemy combatants.

What are your memories of September 11, 2001? Are they related to your experiences with the Political Science Department here at Chico State? Drop us an e-mail at politicalscience@csuchico.edu; we'd love to hear from you.

Political Science Awards—2011

The awards for our outstanding Political Science Students in 2011 were plentiful!

***Amro Jayousi** was designated Political Science Outstanding Student for 2011. Amro also received the Outstanding Student Leader Award for Behavioral & Social Sciences.

*Five students graduated with Honors in General Education. Ten students graduated with Highest Distinction in their majors; fifteen students graduated with Distinction in their majors.

***Aren Dawkins, Aaron Easton, David Perricone, and Jillian Zarifis** graduated Summa Cum Laude. **Andrew Fox, Joshua Keller,**

David Martinez, and Thomas Parker graduated Magna Cum Laude; Cum Laude students were **Krystal Ibarra, Jayme Jones, and Seiya Watanabe.**

*Advocacy Awards were presented to **Luz Barboza** and **Jeffrey Nordlander**; the Public Law Community Service Award was presented to **Julia Goldman** for 2011.

***Krystle Tonga** received the Enhancement of Multicultural Understanding Award, and **Anthony Carral** received a Wells Fargo Award during the 2011 University Awards Reception in April 2011.

Congratulations to all!

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ALUMNI: We would love to hear your news! Please take a moment to send us a note, mail us a postcard, or drop us an e-mail. We'll save all of your greetings for future issues of *Political Statements*. No matter how long it's been, or how far away you've traveled, you are always a part of our Political Science family! To update your address information, please send us a note at www.csuchico.edu/advancement/_common_files/update_info/alumni_update.html.

Political Science Faculty Teach Abroad

“I happened to arrive in Barcelona on one of the biggest party nights of the year: the celebration of St. George (I didn’t know of the celebration prior to my arrival),” said Professor Ryan Patten. “I was told to expect an all-night party on the beach and lots of fireworks, which sounded like fun. What they neglected to tell me is that people throw the fireworks AT you. Yes, I mean directly at you.” This is the beginning of one of the many events experienced this summer by Assistant Professor Ryan Patten, who spent several weeks as a visiting professor at the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos in Madrid, Spain, teaching a course on comparative death penalty politics to American students studying abroad.

He joins the ranks of many other political science department faculty who have traveled



Professor Ryan Patten in Spain

abroad in recent years to teach summer or semester long courses for the University Studies Abroad Consortium (USAC), a nonprofit organization which provides quality, accredited summer, semester, and year-long programs in 25 countries. Teachers are selected based on their superior teaching ability, flexibility regarding international working and living conditions, and ability to develop or expand their courses to relate to the program site, region, or nation.

Visiting teachers have an opportunity to establish contact with international colleagues or engage in international research and to strengthen and support study abroad programs on our campus.

As Professor Diana Dwyre, who taught during summer 2009 in Turino, Italy, notes, “this experience has made me the most enthusiastic advocate of study abroad for our students. I ask every student (in class or while advising) if they have considered studying abroad.”



Professor Diana Dwyre in Venice with husband, Joe, and son, Quinn

Teachers also work abroad for the new experiences.

Associate Professor Mahalley Allen made full use of her time teaching at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic in summer 2010, to explore many of Europe’s great cities. She explained that “the course itself was four weeks, but the entire program was five weeks because it included a week-long field study to Vienna, Austria; Budapest, Hungary; and Bratislava, Slovakia.” And after the end of her USAC teaching responsibilities, she was then able to travel to Rome, Vienna, Amsterdam, Paris, Berlin, and Krakow.

In fact, USAC selects teachers based in part on their willingness to experience the local culture and encourage their students to do the same. Teachers like Professor Lori Weber, who offer courses with activities outside the classroom, provide rich and novel experiences for their students. As Professor Weber reports, “The absolute highlight of my semester abroad in Italy was bringing students to the international food conference, Terra Madre, hosted by the international organization and movement Slow Food, and held every two years in Turin, Italy. The conference draws participants from hundreds of countries, and students were able to observe international policymaking firsthand at this conference. Taking part in this conference with over twenty students will be an experience I will cherish for the remainder of my career.”



Professor Mahalley Allen in Prague

Professor Emeritus Beau Grosscup experienced the success of his class when a student brought in a picture of graffiti that said “NO ONE WILL CHOOSE FOR ME” (in Spanish, meaning women have a right to choose on the issue of pregnancy/abortion) that was on all the churches in Granada. Subsequently, on program excursions students not in the class commented on how their peers in the class had changed their behavior — now paying keen attention to the graffiti and political posters that are everywhere — whereas it remained invisible or un-noticed by others.

The exciting combination of developing new courses with an international flavor, meeting and



Professor Lori Weber (far right) and students at the International Food Conference in Terra Madre, Italy

working with new students and colleagues abroad, and gaining new cultural experiences works as an irresistible draw; all those who have taught abroad agree that they definitely intend to do so again.



Professor Beau Grosscup, with son Cooper, in Ireland

The following offers short profiles of five of the political science faculty who have taught abroad in the past two years.

Diana Dwyre, Professor, taught a five-week course on Business and Politics in the EU in summer 2009 at the School of Business Administration at the University of Torino, Italy. She plans to teach the same class in Bilbao, Spain in summer 2012. Dwyre also spent a semester teaching in Australia.

Mahalley Allen, Associate Professor, taught Political Films and Novels of Europe in June and July 2010 at Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic.

Lori Weber, Professor, taught two semester-long courses: The Politics of Food: The “Slow Food” and Local Food Movement, and Comparative Politics: U.S. and Italy/EU in fall 2010 at the School of Business Administration at the University of Torino, Italy.

Ryan Patten, Assistant Professor, taught a four-week course in Comparative Death Penalty Politics in June 2011 at the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos in Madrid, Spain.

Beau Grosscup, Professor Emeritus, traveled to Alicante, Spain during the summer 2011 to teach Visual Display of Contemporary Political Issues at the University of Alicante.

International Relations Student Receives Fellowship for Study in Egypt

Jose Valdovinos, a graduate student in American Politics and International Relations at California State University, Chico, has won a Boren Fellowship for \$24,000 to study in Cairo, Egypt, for one year. The Boren Fellowships, funded by the National Security Education Program (NSEP), allow U.S. graduate students to add an international and language component to their graduate education.

Valdovinos will study Arab language, politics, and culture. His graduate thesis is on U.S. foreign policy in the post-containment era (after World War II to the present). He is looking at the need to adapt foreign policies to the realities of the current world. He has a special interest in the Mideast and has taken Arabic Language classes. He and other Arabic language students have organized a club that invites Middle Eastern foreign students to interact with Americans who are studying Arabic.

Valdovinos is the first student from CSU, Chico to receive this fellowship. Professor Diana Dwyre, his master's thesis adviser, wrote, "Jose is an unusually thoughtful, intelligent and mature young man with a serious and realistic commitment to public service. I strongly urged him to pursue the Boren Fellowship as a program that

could bring his current knowledge and experience together with advanced, targeted language and political science training in preparation for his ideal career choice, which is to work for the Department of State. This is a prestigious award, and we are very proud of him."

Valdovinos will study at the American University in Cairo and hopes to live with a host family during his year-long stay in Egypt. "At the end of the day, we are all people and want the same things," said Valdovinos. "A host family will keep me in touch with the basic level of government—its people. It doesn't matter what race or creed; it is family that makes up our nations, and it is important for me to keep in touch with that."

Valdovinos believes that this fellowship will help support his career aspirations of becoming a Foreign Service Officer for the U.S. Department of State. "Specifically, I would like to become



either an Economic or Political Affairs officer in one of our embassies. I want to have a long and distinguished career in the Foreign Service, working my way up the ranks, perhaps even one day becoming an ambassador. It would be a great honor to serve my country in such a way." He believes that he will not only be able to contribute to solving global problems, but will also be able to travel and learn about different countries and cultures all over the world.

Boren Fellowships support study and research in areas of the world that are critical to U.S. interests, including Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin America, and the Middle East. NSEP focuses on geographic areas, languages, and fields of study deemed critical to U.S. national security. NSEP draws on a broad definition of national security, recognizing that the scope of national security has expanded to include not only the traditional concerns of protecting and promoting American well-being, but also the challenges of global society, including sustainable development, environmental degradation, global disease and hunger, population growth and migration, and economic competitiveness.

Recent Graduate Obtains Grant for Research in Europe



Katherine "Kasia" Sumarowski, a recent graduate in Public Administration and International Relations at CSU, Chico, spent her last semester as an undergraduate enrolled in a study abroad program at Zeppelin Universitat in Friedrichshafen, Germany, on Lake

Konstanz. This was Sumarowski's home for much of the spring 2011 semester, where she explained: "We eat buttered pretzels for breakfast and I can see Austria, the Swiss Alps, and Switzerland from the Lake."

In addition to her regular university coursework, in May, Sumarowski embarked on an extensive research project to examine the effectiveness of an anti-human trafficking initiative in the country of Latvia. Her travel and research was funded in part by a CSU, Chico Research and Creativity grant, awarded her in 2010.

In Riga, Latvia, Sumarowski interviewed stakeholders and other actors responsible for Latvia's anti-human trafficking efforts. In particular, she evaluated the impact of United States policy on trafficking in Latvia, specifically the work of the U.S. State Department's Cross-Sector Solutions and the International Organizations for Adolescents. "My findings revealed many things, but most of all, how policy, nonprofit, and governmental advocacy and community can come together to impact the deplorable crime of

human trafficking."

After completing her research project and her spring semester studies in Germany, Sumarowski spent the next couple of months visiting friends and family and traveling around Europe, including Milano, Italy; Nyborg, Denmark; Poznan, Poland; Zurich, Switzerland, and other parts of Germany and Italy. She notes of her travels, "As an American, it is one intense cultural immersion, but one I am happy to be a part of and learn from."

Now that she has officially graduated, Sumarowski is currently exploring job and internship opportunities, considering graduate study in public policy, public management, or business administration, and possibly pursuing a Fulbright in Latvia or Brazil to continue her work against human trafficking.

They Will be Missed

The spring 2011 semester saw the sad loss of two of our Criminal Justice Majors, Alfredo Martinez and Nicholas Fosco. Our sincerest condolences to their families and friends.

Alfredo Martinez, 21, died as a result of a shooting Feb. 4 in Yuba City. Alfredo entered CSU, Chico in fall 2007 and declared a criminal justice major in 2009. He was from Yuba City, where he was a participant in the EOP program. Criminal Justice Professor Jon Caudill, who had Alfredo in class, said of him: "He was a quiet student, but

when he spoke he brought a lot to the classroom based on his life experiences. He was insightful, and people responded well to him. He always had a smile on his face."

Nicholas Fosco, 26, died as a result of a car accident on Friday, May 20. He was on his way home from Chico to Orange County, when the accident occurred near King City. He transferred to Chico State in 2010 as a criminal justice major and was enrolled in summer and fall 2011 classes.

"Nick was quiet and contemplative in class, but he exuded confidence in his written work," said Criminal Justice Professor Ryan Patten, who had him in class. "It was easy to see that Nick was not in class just to get a grade, but to truly understand corrections and its role in the criminal justice system." A scholarship has been established in Nick's name to help continue his legacy. To make a donation, please go to: www.csuchico.edu/makeagift or call Leslie Schibsted at (530) 898-3641.

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Alternatively, you can send in your gift to Chico State Fund, CSU, Chico, Chico, CA 95929-0240 with the department designation on your check.



Moot Court Competition Turns 30

The Political Science Department is home to the Moot Court Competition which marks its 30th anniversary in its present form. CSU, Chico's Moot Court Competition is based upon the model from law schools and from the undergraduate Moot Court Competition Nationals. Students in this program are provided a fact situation and citable authority about a month before the actual competition. During that month they prepare their arguments, author an appellate brief, and go about honing their presentation to be made in a single elimination tournament in May.

In that tournament up to 32 teams (64 students) compete in this weeklong, single elimination tournament. On Monday night they make the argument from the side that they are assigned for that night and which is

also the side that represents their appellate brief. If they prevail on Monday night, they go onto Tuesday night, and on Tuesday night they are required to switch sides. If they win on Tuesday, they go on to Wednesday and switch back, etc. With half the teams being eliminated each night, by Friday there are two teams left for the championship. Those arguments are traditionally made at the Chico City Council Chambers, and at that event the champions are awarded a plaque, as are the semi-finalists. There is also an award for the best brief in the competition.

Students in this program have competed in the Nationals competition. Professor Dane Cameron sat as the Chief Justice for the Nationals Finals the year before last in Long Beach and will be doing so again in 2011/2012. Having served on the National Moot Court Competition

Board of Directors for years, Professor Cameron has participated in fashioning the rules and providing input with regards to problems that are addressed in the National arguments. Now that Cameron is off the Board of Directors, he is free to coach teams who might participate in the Nationals.

In spring 2011, the Moot Court Competition took place the week of May 2 with final arguments being heard on May 6 at City Council Chambers. The 2011 competition involved a Latin Cross which is standing in a city's war memorial cemetery, and was based upon a case that has recently been decided by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal.

Moot Court Champion for 2011 was Rachele Allison-Lamb. Finalists were Jeffrey Nordlander and Nathan Brady.