

WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY

POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

NEWSLETTER FALL 2007

MODEL UNITED NATIONS AWARDS

Wichita State University Model United Nations team partnered with Johnson County Community College (JCCC) to represent France at the National Model United Nations Conference in New York this spring. Students sat on a total of 16 different committees, including holding a permanent seat on the Security Council. Students negotiated with other delegates in committee sessions for four days seeking to address problems of global concern, and to promote France's interests in the documents being drafted. All of the hard work paid off in the end. The committees drafted excellent resolutions and the team was awarded an Outstanding Delegation Award in the closing ceremony. This award takes a full team effort. All delegates must be visible and active in their committees throughout the conference. Delegates are expected to work toward consensus, which involves considerable diplomatic skills to bring together delegates with widely differing views.



MUN participants (left to right) Kyle Aldrich, Brandon Hottman, Nadine Sauerwein, Marcus Hedrick, Deronda Aiken, Matt Goad, Lizzie Bernhart, Jonathan Dravis, and Jerrod Higginbotham.

(not pictured: Brittany Stiffler and Matt Long)

SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR INTERNS



Bob Dole with intern Matt Long.

Our interns had excellent experiences in Topeka and Washington, DC this spring. Cody Smith was with the Office of the Attorney General of the United States. Matt Long served with Amnesty International. Tammy Zimmerman interned at The White House. Steven Edmiston was with Congresswoman Nancy Boyda. Joanna Fischer served in Senator Pat Roberts office. In Topeka, John Breiner interned with Representative Jim Ward. The Washington interns participated in a weekly seminar with guest speakers and weekly briefings on current political events.

POLITICAL SCIENCE ALUMNI UPDATES

Roula Attar '00- Election Specialist with the National Democratic Institute, Lebanon

Aiching Chen '04 - Peace Corps Volunteer, Azerbaijan

Alan Conroy '79- Director of Kansas Legislative Research Services, Topeka, Kansas

Jason Dilts '05 -Executive Director, Sedgwick County Democratic Party

Jeff DeGraffenreid '88- Partner, Foulston/Siefkin Law firm

Marcus Hedrick '07 - Harvard Law School, Boston

FACULTY NOTES

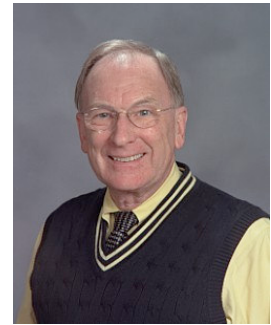


Dinorah Azpuru, Assistant Professor, Comparative and International Politics

In the past academic year Prof. Azpuru has had an active research agenda, which included the publication of a book on democratization in Central America. She was invited to present the results of her research at the University of North Texas and the Postgraduate Naval School. She also worked on the topic of American democracy assistance abroad. She taught a course on developing nations, which had not been offered at the department for several years and is now teaching regularly at the WSU West Campus. She has been serving as a member of the College Council and is currently working on the establishment of a Certificate in Latin American Studies.

Ken Ciboski, Associate Professor, Comparative and American Politics

Prof. Ciboski proposed and had accepted two new courses, "Human Rights" and "European Politics", as part of the department's course offerings. He taught courses on campus and at the WSU West Campus. He served as the department's advisor for the Cooperative Education program and as faculty advisor for the College Republicans. Also, he served on the University's Honors committee. His academic research focuses on comparative political purges and the bureaucracy and decision-making. He provided numerous interviews with national, state and local media on politics at all levels of government. He is a member of the City of Wichita's Cultural Arts Funding Committee and Vice President and program director of the Sedgwick County Pachyderm Club.



William Hoston, Assistant Professor, State and Local Politics



Prof. Hoston has had two articles published in the past year: "Black Solidarity and Racial Context: An Exploration of the Role of Black Solidarity in U.S. Cities" in the *Journal of Black Studies*, and "Devolution and Black State Legislators: Challenges and Choices in the Twenty-first Century" in *American Review of Politics*. He has also written a number of op-ed pieces for the Wichita Eagle including "Murders Provoking Fear in Community" (July 8, 2007) which has drawn regional attention. This fall he will be a regular guest on the show "Urban Perspectives" (Channel 49).

David Ericson,

Associate Professor,
Political Theory

Prof. Ericson was on sabbatical leave throughout the 2006-7 academic year. This year he will be a Visiting Fellow in the James Madison Program in American Ideals and Institutions at Princeton University.

John Stanga,

Associate Professor,
Constitutional Law and Congress

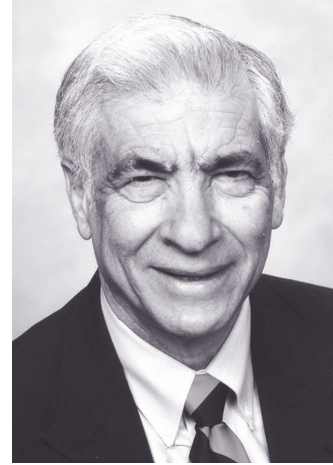
Prof. Stanga suffered a stroke in the fall semester last year and has been on medical leave. He has made a good recovery with physical therapy, but has not yet returned to campus.

PI SIGMA ALPHA HONOREES INDUCTED

The following students were inducted into Pi Sigma Alpha, the Political Science Honors society, at our spring picnic: Brady Baus, Elizabeth Bernhart, Kevin Booze, Zachary Brown, Joshua Davis, Paul Gray, Angelique Keller, Martha Pint, Cody Smith, and Brittany Stiffler.

Mel Kahn, Professor, American Government

Prof. Kahn received the Academy for Effective Teaching Award for Distinguished Teaching. He also served as on-campus coordinator for the Washington-Topeka Internship Program and as Political Science Undergraduate Advisor. He was elected to a fifth two-year term as a member of the Kansas Democratic Party State Committee and to the National Advisory Board of the Game of Politics simulation. He was a resource person for the 2006 Election Forum conducted at Gannon College in PA. He provided numerous interviews with local and state media outlets on national and Kansas politics. He is serving on the college Tenure and Promotion Committee. He won honors as the "Lion of the Year" by the Wichita Downtown Lion's club.

**Sarah McIntosh**, Lecturer, Public Law

Prof. McIntosh received her BA in Political Science from WSU in 2002, and her JD in 2005 from Georgetown Law School in Washington, DC. After serving as a Law Clerk for the Superior Court of the Virgin Islands for a year, she returned to Wichita and took a position at the Flint Hills Center for Public Policy in Wichita. The Political Science Department is pleased to welcome her to our faculty to teach the Public Law course this fall.

Carolyn Shaw, Associate Professor and Chair, International Relations

Prof. Shaw traveled extensively last year, attending and presenting research papers at conferences in Chicago, St. Louis, and Charlotte. She also traveled to New York and St. Louis with the Model United Nations students. Her recent publications include "The Evolution of Regional Human Rights Mechanisms: A Focus on Africa" in the *Journal of Human Rights* and "Legalizing Norms of Democracy in the Americas" in the *Review of International Studies*. She received the WSU Excellence in Teaching Award from the Board of Trustees. She continues to offer classes on a variety of international political topics and is planning to lead another travel seminar to Europe in the summer of 2008.



AIR FORCE ACADEMY CONFERENCE

Cody Smith was selected by the political science faculty as the WSU delegate to the 49th Annual Academy Assembly at the US Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO. The delegates participated in three full days of intense discussion about "A Continent at a Crossroads: Prosperity, Justice, and Security in South America." Guest speakers included Dr. Paul Sigmund of Princeton University, and Ambassador Jeffery Davidrow, former US Ambassador to Venezuela, and former Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs.

CAREER DAY EVENT

Mel Kahn organized a successful Career Day event in the Department this spring, with several alumni returning to campus to share their experience with our students. Eugene Anderson, former state legislator, spoke about his experiences in the Kansas Senate. Cheryl Phillippi shared her knowledge about consultancies for local governments. Sarah McIntosh, a recent graduate of Georgetown Law School, provided tips to students considering attending law school. Students enjoyed pizza and had a chance to ask questions following the talks.

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CELEBRATING OUR 2007 GRADUATES



From left to right: Issac Ferguson, Monica Vashaw, Erica Sandoval, Jamie Hofling, Anthony Curry, Brittany Stiffler, Matt Long, Nadine Sauerwein, and Marcus Hedrick. Not Pictured: Kent Corey (Dec 2006) Heidi Harding, Danielle Hickert, Martha Pint, Ascension Rojas, Ginny Ruschen (Summer 2007), British Tharpe.

ALUMNI UPDATES (continued):

James Johnston '54-Partner, Johnston and Johnston Law Firm, retired

Tommy Jones '02 -U.S. Air Force Captain, Afghanistan

Jenna Keesling '06 -Supervisor, Kansas Legislative Intern Program

Lee Kinch '63 -Democratic National Committeeman for Kansas

Carolyn Rampey '67 -Education specialist for Kansas Legislative Research Service, retired

Keith Sanborn '49 -District Attorney, Kansas 18th district, retired

Aaron Turner '05 -Studying Chinese at National Taiwan Normal University, teaching English at Berlitz International

Sarah Wu '03 -PhD student, University of Tennessee, Knoxville