A Word From the Department Chair

Last year at this time, I alerted you to expect some exciting changes in the coming year, with the department looking to recruit several new faculty members. As you will see within this newsletter, we more than fulfilled this goal by hiring five new colleagues, four of them into tenured positions at the Associate Professor rank. In August, Seth Jolly (comparative politics), Miriam Elman (IR), Colin Elman (IR), and Glyn Morgan (theory, comparative) will be joining the department. Margarita Estevez-Abe (comparative) will be joining us in January 2009. These new colleagues are briefly profiled on page 4. Taken together, these hires reflect the department’s commitment to balance a strengthening of our ability to offer training in state-of-the-art research methods with a reaffirmation of our traditional commitment to methodological pluralism and theory-in-the-world. Other exciting developments in the past year include both University-wide and national honors for Grant Reeher, who won an award from the American Political Science Association and an SU Chancellor’s Citation for Excellence recognizing his commitment to civic education and engagement.

Sincerely,

Mark Rupert
Professor and Chair

Office Greeters

Our office greeters, Kofi and Ziggy, eagerly await newcomers into the office.

Faculty Awards

Grant Reeher was named winner of the American Political Science Association’s 2007 McGraw Hill Award for Scholarship and Teaching on Civic Engagement in Political Science, as well as a Syracuse University Chancellor’s Citation for Excellence in the area of Engagement with the World.

Keith Bybee won the 2007 Excellence in Graduate Education Faculty Recognition Award from the Graduate School, Syracuse University.

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Incoming PhD & MA Students

Due to some good luck in recruiting our top prospects, we are currently expecting a slightly larger than normal class for 2008 – 2009. We are looking forward to 10 PhD & 9 MA students joining our department. Our students are coming to us from New York, Massachusetts, Virginia, Florida, California, Washington, Colorado, Nevada, and Washington DC, as well as China, Romania, and Korea.

They have a wide-ranging and interesting set of backgrounds. Here are just a few examples: Two of our students come from government administration--the Governor's Office of Commonwealth Preparedness in the Virginia Department of Homeland Security, and the Federal Trade Commission. Another is joining us from Arizona State University, where she was a doctoral student studying with our new professors, Colin & Miriam Elman. A student who will be joining us in January is currently working on the Obama campaign, and wants to see it through to the finish, while another took electoral matters into his own hands and was a candidate for mayor of his town. Yet another developed a “bottom up” interest in politics as a submarine officer.

So you can see that we are looking forward to a dynamic first year!

Department News

Tom Raven defended his doctoral dissertation at Cornell University and was appointed to the rank of Assistant Professor at SU beginning in 2008-09.

Sarah Pralle & Tom Keck were both granted tenure and promoted to associate professor.

After two decades of teaching foreign policy and international relations in this department, Goodie Cooke has retired from the regular teaching of undergraduate PSC courses. Fortunately for Maxwell, he will teach special courses occasionally and will continue to share his wisdom and experience by giving lectures and talks at the school.

Mehrzad Boroujerdi reports that the New York Board of Education has approved our proposal to offer a Major (B.A. degree) in Middle Eastern Studies beginning Fall 2009. Students interested in the major can take classes during the 2008-09 academic year and then officially declare their MES major in Fall 2009. The MES program has been accepted as an institutional member of the Middle East Studies Association.

Shawna Synakowski, who was our department’s faithful work-study for 5 years, is moving on to complete her Masters degree in Speech Pathology.

The 2008 American Political Science Association (APSA) conference will be held from August 28-31st in Boston Massachusetts. Our department reception will be held from 7:30-9pm on Friday August 29th at the Marriott Falmouth.
Books Published


Lawrence Thomas, Debates in Social Philosophy. Blackwell Publishing.


Audie Klotz and Deepa Prakash, Qualitative Methods in International Relations. New York, Palgrave 2008.
New Faculty

Colin Elman, a PhD from Columbia University, 1999, will be joining our Political Science department as an Associate Professor. He studies International Relations theory, the history of the US as a great power, and qualitative methods in political and social inquiry. He is co-founder and director of the Institute for Qualitative and Multi-method Research, which offers intensive methods training to graduate students and faculty from across the country and the world. The IQMR will relocate to Maxwell under Colin’s continuing leadership, in cooperation with the Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs. Colin’s book, Regional Hegemony: The United States and Offensive Realism, 1803-1898, is currently under contract with Cambridge University Press.

Miriam F. Elman also a PhD from Columbia University, 1996, will accompany her husband Colin Elman, joining our Political Science department here in the Fall as an Associate Professor. She is an award winning teacher. She is co-editor of two books, editor of a third, and her single author book, Introduction to International Security, is currently under contract with Cambridge University Press. Her research interests include the impact of war and foreign policy crises on democratic political development, democratization in the Middle East, and the role of religious parties in promoting and moderating violence. Miriam currently serves on the editorial board of International Security, and is president of the APSA’s foreign policy section. Her teaching focuses on IR theory, war and peace in the Middle East, war and conflict processes, and international security.

Seth Jolly, a PhD from Duke University, 2006, will be joining us as an Assistant Professor. Seth studies comparative politics. He is particularly interested in the relationship between European integration and the mobilization of sub-national political forces. Seth will be teaching in the areas of EU politics, comparative political parties, ethnic conflict, and political economy.

Glyn Morgan, a PhD from the University of California at Berkeley, 2001, will be joining us an Associate Professor. Glyn’s work spans political theory and comparative politics. His first book, The Idea of a European Superstate (Princeton University Press), examined possible justifications for European unification. He is currently completing work on a volume assessing the contemporary relevance of the political thought of John Stuart Mill. Glyn has won numerous teaching awards, and will offer courses on political theory, religion and politics, the politics of public and private, and European Union.

Margarita Estevez-Abe a PhD from Harvard University, 1999, will be joining us as an Associate Professor. Her research falls under the general rubric of comparative political economy. Her first book (published by Cambridge University Press) focused on Welfare Capitalism in Postwar Japan. Her current research project involves reexamining the influential “Varieties of Capitalism” research program in comparative politics from a gendered perspective in order to come to grips with the increasing importance of female workers in the global economy. Her paper entitled “Gendering the Varieties of Capitalism” won the award for Best Comparative Politics Paper at the 2005 APSA, and was subsequently published by World Politics, one of the leading journals in International Relations and Comparative Politics. Margarita will begin teaching at Maxwell in January 2009.
Graduate Student Awards

Jessica Boscarino and Deepa Prakash are selected winners of the Outstanding TA award for academic year 2007-2008 and they have been selected as Teaching Fellows for the academic year 2008-2009.

Jessica Boscarino received the Dean’s Dissertation Writing Fellowship for the 2008-2009 academic year.

Amy Widestrom has been awarded an APSA Congressional Fellowship for academic year 2008-2009 as well as the American Academy of Political and Social Science, Graduate Fellow, 2008.

Heather Pincock has received a Graduate Research Fellowship for academic year 2008-2009 from the Program on Negotiation at Harvard Law School.

Amanda Dipaolo received the Maxwell Doctoral Award for Political Science.

Asli Ilgit received the DAAD (Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst, German Academic Exchange Service) Research Grant for dissertation research. She was also selected for a MAX 132 teaching fellowship for academic year 2008-09.

Jekaterina Kalandadze received the Hursky Ukrainian Fellowship from the Graduate School at SU for the academic year 2008-2009.

Havva Karakas-Keles received the Dean’s Dissertation Writing Fellowship for the 2008-2009 academic year.

Toby Van Assche received a 3-year post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Antwerp in Belgium. He will be working on a project called “Media, Movements, and Politics,” which primarily deals with Agenda Setting in Belgium and Europe.

Petra Hejnova will be an adjunct instructor for MAX 132 for academic year 2008-09.

Hector Ortiz received the Meiklejohn Grant for Fall 2008.

Richard Price and Matt Guardino each received a 2008-09 Research Fellowship in the Institute for the Study of the Judiciary, Politics, and the Media (IJPBM).

Ebrahim Khalifeh Soltani will be a graduate assistant for the Leaders for Democracy Fellows Program.
Dissertations Completed

**Brett Heindl** “Transnational Political Activism in American Cuban, Jewish, and Irish Communities.” August 2007, Advisor: James Bennett


MA Degrees Completed

Mark Joseph Farrell, 2007 MA
Stacey Marshall, 2007 MA
Sara Lynn Ryan, 2007 MA
Jeffrey John Wieczorek, 2008 MA

Graduate Student Jobs

**Ermin Sinanovic** is currently teaching at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis Maryland.

**John Mero** has accepted a tenure-track position at Campbell University

**Amy Widestrom** has accepted a tenure-track job at the University of California, Long Beach, which she will defer for a year in order to participate in the Congressional Fellowship program.

**Doreen Allerkamp** took a full-time position of research and teaching with Professor Berthold Rittberger at the University of Mannheim. Doreen will not only be joining a major center of European Studies in Germany, but also be part of an up-and-coming team of researchers working on institutional changes of and within the European Union.
Alumni News

Darrell Driver has been named a Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations and will be a permanent member of the organization.

Jongpil Chung has accepted an assistant professor tenure-track position in the Department of Political Science at the Kyung Hee University (Seoul Campus)

Hannah Britton received tenure at the University of Kansas and promotion to associate professor.

Binnur Ozkececi-Taner will be starting a tenure-track position at Hamline University, located in Minnesota, in the Fall of 2008.

Alireza Shomali has accepted a tenure-track position at Wheaton College.

Brett Heindl and Jessica Wintringham announced the birth of Samuel Louis Heindl, born on February 3, 2008.

Scott Solomon and his wife Bess have a new baby girl, Evangelia Aigli, born on December 31, 2007.

Erika Wilkens and Yunus Sozen announce the birth of their daughter, Asya Sharon Sozen, on December 10, 2007.

Amanda DiPaolo has accepted a tenure-track position at Middle Tennessee State University for the Fall 2008.