Congratulations!

Brian Taylor has been promoted to Associate Professor and was granted tenure.

Grant Reeher has been promoted to full Professor.

Mike Barkun will be teaching his last semester here at Maxwell in the Spring of 2010. He has had a highly productive career spanning forty years.

A Word From the Department Chair

Following the lead of Kristi Andersen and the Undergraduate Studies Committee, the department has instituted some exciting new initiatives. First, we have created a Program of Distinction in Political Science. This new program will involve a year-long distinction seminar during which PSC majors participating in the program will each design, execute, and present an original research project that will serve as a PSC Distinction thesis.

Students participating in the Distinction program will ask an individual faculty member to serve as their thesis supervisor and mentor, but they will also receive advice and support from other students in the Distinction seminar as well as the faculty seminar leader. Brian Taylor has generously volunteered to lead the first PSC distinction seminar next year. Next spring, we anticipate graduating our first group of PSC majors with Distinction.

The department is also phasing in a new set of senior seminars, designed to provide a small-group capstone course for some of our majors who want a more intensive upper-level PSC experience but do not wish to pursue the thesis-based Distinction option. Also, we have institutionalized within the department a Political Science Research Workshop at which faculty and graduate students present their work-in-progress for discussion and constructive critique. Matt Cleary is organizing these Workshops, in cooperation with Audie Klotz who is organizing a complementary series with the support of the Moynihan Institute. This summer also saw the first iteration of the Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR), an internationally recognized training program now housed in Maxwell and led by Colin Elman.

Sincerely,

Mark Rupert
Professor and Chair
Qualitative Methods Analysis Institute

The annual Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research (IQMR) has just arrived from Arizona State University. IQMR 2009 was co-hosted by the Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs and the Consortium for Qualitative Research Methods, and was held at the Maxwell School from May 26th through June 9th.

IQMR’s first iteration at Syracuse University was a great success. The 2009 institute brought together over 150 graduate students and junior faculty from the United States, Europe and Asia. The institute was led by 32 instructors who gave lectures, engaged in discussions, and provided feedback on attendees’ research designs.

The 2009 institute sought to enable students to create and critique methodologically sophisticated qualitative research designs, including case studies, tests of necessity or sufficiency, and narrative or interpretive work. It was the first to use a new modular design, with each module consisting of five linked sessions. Attendees selected which four of the eight modules they wished to attend.

IQMR 2009 was held at the same time as a related Research Group aimed to encourage the development of qualitative and multi-method research techniques. The research groups focused on both article and book projects. The article projects discussed at the 2009 Research Group were largely drawn from paper proposals submitted to the American Political Science Association. The book project part of the Research Group arises from the recent development of a new book series at Cambridge University Press on Strategies of Social Inquiry.

Political Science Research Workshop

With support from the Political Science Department and the Dean’s Office, Assistant Professor Matt Cleary established the Political Science Research Workshop (PSRW) in the Fall of 2008 to provide our own graduate students and faculty with the opportunity to present work in progress. Presentations typically focus on a dissertation proposal, a chapter, or an article manuscript. Presenters circulate their written work about a week prior to the session, and attendees read the work and prepare comments or questions ahead of time. A graduate student serves as discussant, offering formal comments to start the session. This format has led to detailed, wide-ranging discussions that cross subfield boundaries and expose presenters and attendees alike to new ideas and research traditions.

The PSRW has quickly become an important venue in which our graduate students (and faculty!) learn a variety of skills that are essential for practicing political scientists. Discussants and other attendees learn to frame their critical feedback in constructive ways, and presenters learn to utilize this type of intellectual exchange to improve the quality of their written research. Graduate student presenters occasionally use a session to practice a conference presentation or a job talk, which the attendees can then critique and evaluate. In addition, attendance allows students and faculty to become more familiar with the work of their colleagues.

In AY 2008-’09, the PSRW held fourteen sessions. Participating faculty and graduate students have found the experience to be so useful and rewarding that we have already booked thirteen more sessions for the coming academic year!

The department is grateful to Hannah Allerdice for serving as the PSRW’s graduate student coordinator for the past year. She will be replaced by Mike Makara for 2009-2010. The workshop meets roughly every other Friday during the academic year; more information can be found at: http://www1.maxwell.syr.edu/pscevents

APSA 2009 Conference will be held in Toronto, ON, Canada September 3-6, 2009. Our PSC dept. reception will be Friday 9/4/09 10 pm.
Books Published


**Faculty Awards**

Thomas Keck was named the Michael O. Sawyer Chair of Constitutional Law and Politics

Stuart Thorson was named the Donald P. and Margaret Curry Gregg Professor of Korean studies

HansPeter Schmitz won the 2009 Excellence in Graduate Education Faculty Recognition Award from the Graduate School, Syracuse University

Grant Reeher was named winner of one of the Chancellor’s Leadership Project grants for his community engagement campaign called CNY Speaks

Margarita Estevez-Abe was named recipient of the prestigious Abe Fellowship for the study of Japan by the Social Science Research Council and the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership

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**Graduate Awards**

George Mitchell was awarded a MAX Course TAship for 201


Anirban Acharya: 2009 Bharati Memorial Grant

Heather Pincock is back in Syracuse after spending a year at Harvard’s Law School in a program on negotiation, made possible through a graduate research fellowship. She will be teaching MAX 123 this Fall.

Hannah Allerdice: 2009-2010 Ralph Ketcham Fellowship Award

Graduate Awards

Nadine Georgel & Jooyoun Lee: 2008-2009 Syracuse University Outstanding TA Awards

Honggang Tan received a 2009-2010 Graduate Student Public Scholarship Mini-Grant

Matthew Guardino & Deepa Prakash: 2009-2010 Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs Dean’s Dissertation Writing Fellowships

Kilic Kanat & Michael Makara: 2009 Yabroudi/MES Fellowship Summer Research Grants

Ioana Emilia Matesan, George Mitchell, Deepa Prakash: 2009 Goekijan Summer Research Grant Recipients

Heather Pincock: Meiklejohn Fellowship Award, Spring 2010

Lorena Vinuela: 2009 PLACA Summer Research Grant

Sibel Oktay: nominated February 2009 for Phi Beta Delta International Honor Society & Honggang Tan - member

Mark Hibben: Spring 2009 Course Development Grant, Continuing Education Division (University of Maine)

Abbey Jorstad, accepted for attendance at INSCT Counterterrorism Program in Herzliya, Israel, summer 2009. Accepted and funded for attendance at Center for Nonproliferation Studies Nuclear Safeguarding Program, summer 2009. Received a paid internship at Social Science Automation to work on content analysis coding software, summer 2009

Havva Karakas-Keles: awarded the David C. McClelland fellowship, granted by the McClelland Center for Research and Innovation, 2009

Sibel Oktay & Chan Woong Shin: both received a grant for Case Study Development, Luce Project in Religion, Media and International Relations, Syracuse University, 2008-2009

Paloma Raggo: winner of the 2008-2009 Johnson Award for Best Papers in Ethics and Accountability from the Johnson Institute for Responsible Leadership, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh, for her paper “Whose Accountability is it Anyway?”


Everita Silina: is a co-recipient of the Kenneth E. Boulding Award for 2009 for her paper she presented at the annual ISA conference this year, “Genocide and Information”

GRADUATE ACHIEVEMENTS

DISSERTATIONS COMPLETED


Tobias K. Van Assche “No Need to Argue: Why Does Concurrence Continue within Foreign Policy Groups Despite Receiving Negative Feedback?” December 2008, Advisor: Margaret Hermann


John Mero “Has MADD’s Policy Agenda Limited the Elks’ Capability to Create Social Capital?” May 2009, Advisor: Grant Reeher

Sreeram Sundar Chaulia “Civilian Protection and Humanitarian Organizations: Rationality or Culture?” August 2009, Advisor: Horace Campbell

MA DEGREES COMPLETED

Anirban Acharya, 2008
Michael Makara, 2008
Olgun Memedula, 2008
Eric Rittinger, 2008
John Barone, 2009 JD/MA
Michael Beckstrand, 2009
Jacob Beier, 2009 JD/MA
Hanneke Derksen, 2009
Rebekah Liscio, 2009
Sibel Oktyay, 2009
Dean Snyder, 2009

GRADUATE STUDENT JOBS

Petra Hejnova – accepted a tenure track position at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, North Adams, MA.

Vlad Kratsoy accepted a position at Northern Illinois University

GRADUATE STUDENT BABY NEWS

Chang Woon & Sanglim Chin announced the arrival of their first born, John Jihoo Shin. March 17, 2009

Jessica & Brent Boscarino announced the arrival of their son, Wynn Joseph Boscarino. January 21, 2009

Angela & Kamesh Narasimhan announced the birth of their daughter Mina Louise Narasimhan. August 6, 2008

Amy Widestrom and Jeremy Sullivan announced the birth of their daughter, Avila Sullivan Widestrom, on July 18, 2009.
INCOMING PHD & MA STUDENTS

The Political Science department is expecting another great incoming class for 2009 – 2010. We are looking forward to 7 PhD and 9 MA students joining us in August. Three of the 9 MA students will be joint degree students with Syracuse University Law School. Our students are coming from near and far: New York, Maine, Connecticut, Delaware, Michigan, Tennessee, Arizona, Colorado and Washington DC, as well as China, Italy, and Mozambique.

This year’s incoming class is as interesting and as diverse as ever. While many of our new students have either worked on a political campaign or interned for their local politician, some students have done both. One of our students worked in the political office of the Italian embassy in Nairobi, and another interned for the Institute of Terrorism Research and Response. Reflecting the class’s international interests, one student was a Deputy Secretary in the Model United Nations, another was an interpreter and translator for CNN and CCTV in Beijing, while a third coordinated global health projects for the Council of Women World Leaders in Mozambique and Tanzania. Closer to home, a couple of our students have worked for AmeriCorps with local youths, one has volunteered with The Detroit Project, helping inner-city youths to start a school newspaper, and another has done volunteer work for Habitat for Humanity.

We look forward to welcoming our new students.

ALUMNI NEWS

Krishna Ayyangar – accepted tenure track position at University of Hartford, CT

Toby Van Assche has a three-year position with the Belgian government

Lanethea Matthews-Gardner received tenure at Muhlenberg College

Mack Mariani is now assistant professor of political science at Xavier University

Amy Widestrom completed her APSA Congressional Fellowship and this Fall begins teaching at University of California

Binnur Ozkeccici-Tanur is now at Hamline University in St. Paul

Cyril Ghosh has accepted a one year visiting position in Political Theory at Reed College.

If you would like to give us an update for our 2010 summer newsletter, please email Candy Brooks at: cbrook01@syr.edu

Also, if you would prefer an electronic version of all future newsletters, please email Stacy Bunce at: sbunce@syr.edu
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