

November 2010 Newsletter

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Mission Statement

Connected to Saskatchewan, Western Canada, the North, the Great Plains environment and the world, we are teachers and scholars who are involved in the systematic study of political life. Our research and scholarly work reflect our pursuit of academic excellence, our involvement in interdisciplinary studies and our sense of place. We are committed teachers who place a high value on learning and understanding, analytical thinking, effective oral and written expressions, and our students' development and success. As political scientists we contribute to the community by sharing our knowledge and expertise.

1. Remarks by the Editor



In this newsletter, we continue to expand our coverage of graduates of the Department of Political Studies and what they are doing now. In this and future issues, it will be apparent that our graduates have found employment in a wide variety of occupations relating to the world of politics and public policy, both nationally and internationally. To take just a couple of examples, one of our recent graduates was just appointed the Chief Electoral officer for the Northwest Territories (see below), while another has just completed work with Interpol (as will be reported in our next newsletter).

Many of our other graduates are in, or have completed, MA and PhD programs, or other specialized programs. For example, Kim Kozak, a former undergraduate in International Studies ('01), just defended her PhD dissertation on "Negotiating Boundaries: Domestic Spaces in Trinidad de Cuba" at the University of Calgary. Kim will be a sessional lecturer in the Department beginning in January.

We want to hear from you. Send us a short description of the career or studies you have undertaken since receiving your degree in the Department of Political Studies (and a picture if you can). Also, if you have advice for current students in the Department (including those in the special programs in Public Administration, Aboriginal Public Administration or International Studies) please send it. What did you learn from making applications for different jobs or for further studies, or about making a good (or bad) impression in an interview? Are there courses (in Political Studies or in other disciplines) you wish you had taken but didn't? Were some courses you did take that were of particular value for someone in your occupation? Is there any other advice you can provide to someone who will graduate with a degree in one of programs in the future?

While we may not be able to publish everything that is submitted, we do want to hear from you. Write to the Editor, **Ron Wheeler**, at: ron.wheeler@usask.ca.

2. Faculty Notes

Loleen Berdahl (right) has two articles forthcoming: "Region-Building: Joint Cabinet Meetings in Western Canada," in *Canadian Public Administration*, and (with Tracey Raney), "Minding Their Policy Cues? Group Identities and Canadian Foreign Policy Attitudes" in *International Journal*. In addition, she published a paper entitled "Whither Western Alienation? Shifting Patterns of Western Canadian Discontent with the Federal Government" for the Canada West Foundation. Professor Berdahl also made presentations at the Prairie Political Science Association meeting and at Canadian Forces College in October, and at the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association in June.



Kalowatie Deonandan (next page, left) is conducting research on mining and development in Guyana with a Tri-Council Bridge Funding Grant. She also gave a seminar at the University of



Guyana's Institute for Development Studies comparing the mining Industry in Guyana and Guatemala. In addition she delivered a paper entitled: "State Response to Community Resistance in Guatemala's Extractive Sector," at the Conference of the Canadian Association of Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CALACS) at Concordia University in June.

Neil Hibbert presented a paper on "Global Justice and Institutional Scope" at the Annual Conference of the Canadian Political Science Association's at Concordia University last May, and a paper entitled "Legitimacy Without Obligation in Global Governance" at the Thinking (With)Out Borders Conference at St. Andrews University in Scotland in June. In addition, his paper "The Legitimacy of Domestic and Transnational Governance" was recently published in T. Mavrikos-Adamou, ed., *Problems and Issues in International Relations* (Athens: Atiner).

Bohdan Kordan (right), Professor and Head of Political Studies at St. Thomas More College (STM), has been awarded \$130,000 as part of a major, multi-year grant to study the "enemy alien" experience in Canada during World War I. The grant is part of the Canadian First World War Internment Recognition Fund which was established in 2008 in a partnership between the Ukrainian Canadian community and the Government of Canada. Professor Kordan will combine a half-year sabbatical (beginning on January 1, 2011) with a one-year leave of absence with the aim of producing a manuscript for publication.



Professor Emeritus **David Smith** (left) has published a new book on *Federalism and the Constitution of Canada* (University of Toronto Press). He also published an article entitled, "Parallel Provinces: Saskatchewan and Alberta" in the Fall issue of *Journal of Canadian Studies* and a review of 'The Strange Demise of British Canada' in the November issue of the *Literary Review of Canada*. Professor Smith received an honorary degree from Ryerson University at its spring convocation in June.

Don Story (right) has served as Chair of the Bylaws Committee of Faculty Council for the past two years. The Committee drafted bylaws for the College of Arts and Science that codify the structures of Faculty Council and the Divisional Faculty Councils of Science, the Social Sciences, and the Humanities and Fine Arts. These were approved at a special meeting of Faculty Council on November 5.



3. Staff Notes



This term we have a new Front Office Assistant, **Eric Macfarlane** (left). Eric is one of our graduate students. He staffs the front office, and assists the Head of the Department Joe Garcea and our Administrative Assistant Blair Pizio. He also assists faculty in various ways and works on a number of special assignments, such as maintaining the Department's

poster boards and updating our website. Eric will be working for us until January.

4. Seminar on Potash



On October 29, the Department of Political Studies presented a seminar on “Potash and Prairie Potash.” The two presenters were the Honourable **Roy Romanow** (left), former Premier of Saskatchewan (1991-2001) and presently a Senior Fellow in Public Policy at the University of Saskatchewan, and **David McGrane** (right), Assistant Professor of Political Studies at St Thomas More College.



As might be expected, a great deal of attention was given to the attempted take-over of the Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan by BHP Billiton.

5. News about the 2011 Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program

The Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program (SLIP) is a jointly-sponsored initiative of the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Regina. The Program provides four Saskatchewan university students with an opportunity to learn, through practical experience, about democratic and parliamentary processes in Saskatchewan. The following report was prepared in April 2010 by this year's Saskatchewan Legislative Interns.

The Honourable Don Toth, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan, has announced the names of the four students who will serve as legislative interns to members of the Assembly from January to July of 2011.

Two of the interns are from the Department of Political Studies at the University of Saskatchewan. They are:

Nicole Hamm, who has completed both the undergraduate and Masters programs in political studies and is currently enrolled in the Juris Doctor program at the College of Law.

Lance Hammell, who is in the fourth year of his Political Studies program.

The other two interns are from the University of Regina – **Shaheen Lotun**, who has completed her Arts degree in Political Science and Indigenous Studies, and **Bennett Misskey**, who is completing his degree in Philosophy and Political Science.



From left to right are Lance Hammell, Nicole Hamm, Shaheen Lotun, and Bennet Misskey.

The Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program offers a unique opportunity for university students to learn about the structure and processes of the Legislative Assembly of Saskatchewan and the work of the private members of the Assembly (MLAs). Four interns are accepted into the Program each year and are mentored for approximately three months by a government MLA and then for another three months by an opposition MLA.

In addition to assisting the MLAs with their legislative and constituency duties, Saskatchewan Legislative Interns learn about the challenges and issues facing Saskatchewan by attending numerous conferences, events, and meetings as either observers or participants. They also have an opportunity to compare the legislative structures and processes in Saskatchewan by travelling to the Parliament of Canada in Ottawa and to selected parliaments and legislatures elsewhere.

Participants in the Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program are expected to live in Regina during the internship period (from January 1 to July 31). They receive a scholarship of \$14,000 that will be paid in installments during their internship. Interns from the University of Saskatchewan will also receive six academic credits in political studies (POLS 482.6).

Beginning in January 2011, applications for the 2012 Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program will be accepted from third- and fourth-year university students and recent graduates who are permanent residents of Saskatchewan. The closing date for receiving applications is the beginning of March 2011. The 2012 interns will be selected by no later than the middle of July 2011.

Upon completion of the Program, Saskatchewan Legislative Interns become members of the Program's alumni. Currently, there are 38 alumni – many of whom are currently employed in challenging and interesting positions in government and other sectors, while several others are pursuing further degrees at universities inside and outside of Saskatchewan.

For further information, please see the Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program's website (www.legassembly.sk.ca/internship) or contact Ken Pontikes, the Program's director (kpp985@mail.usask.ca).

6. Report from the Graduate Chair



The following is a report on our Graduate Program by the Graduate Chair Hans Michelmann:

This Fall's cohort of graduate students numbers eleven. Tanya Andrusieczko joins us from Ontario, having done her undergraduate degree at the University of Ottawa. Fahimeh Behrang is our first Iranian student. Her undergraduate degree is from the Islamic Azad University in Tehran. Kwaku Mawuena joins us from Ghana (though he has spent a number of years in North America) by way of York University. Petra Vychodilova spent last winter term with us as an exchange student from Masaryk University in Brno, Czech Republic and decided to join our graduate program. Seven students, Bonnie Cherewyk, Dalal Daoud, Giustino Garcea, Heather Jordan, Travis Lingenfelter, Dustin Munroe and Stephanie Thompson, completed their undergraduate degree at the University of Saskatchewan.

Their research interests are as diverse as those of previous students. Tanya will be addressing the story of resistance in first nations political writing; Fahimeh will focus on US policy toward Iran; Bonnie will write about the idea of closing the "historic gap" that exists between political and civil rights, and economic and social rights; Dalal will examine federalism in the Sudan; Giustino will do his research on oversight of Canada's Security Intelligence Service; Heather will examine Marxist rebellions in the age of neo-liberal globalization; Travis will use political marketing theory to explain the results of the 2009 Saskatchewan New Democratic party leadership race; Kwaku is assessing conflict in the ECOWAS region of western Africa; Dustin's research is on the politics of educational finance in Saskatchewan; and Petra will study barriers to inter-provincial physician mobility and those facing foreign doctors in Canada;

Four students completed their MA theses and graduated at fall convocation. Their theses are as follows:

Tyson Flynn, *Oil from Ice: Examining the Impact of Energy Development on Canadian Arctic Sovereignty* (supervisor: Greg Poelzer)

Nicole Hamm, *Cold Contact: A Study of Canada-US Relations in the Arctic* (supervisor: Don Story)

Devin Hugh O'Neal: *The Trade, Investment and Labour Mobility Agreement (TILMA): An Analysis of Politics, Processes and Provisions* (supervisor: Joe Garcea)

Nadine Mary Zettl, *The Impact of Devolution on Capacity Building Through Post-Secondary Education in the North: A Case Study of UArctic* (supervisor: Greg Poelzer)

As the titles demonstrate, an emphasis on the Canadian North has become more prominent in our graduate program.

The total number of graduating student for the 2010 calendar year, then, is nine, five having graduated at spring convocation. With the incoming group, 31 students are now enrolled in the program. Many from previous cohorts are close to defending their thesis so that next year Political Studies, despite its relatively small faculty complement, will again have one of the largest groups of convocating graduate students in the College of Arts and Science.”

7. New Political Studies Graduate Students Association

This year’s new graduate students in Political Studies have formed a new Political Studies Graduate Students Association. The members hope to organize activities in the new year.



From left to right are Dalal Daoud, Dustin Munroe, Heather Jordan, Petra Vychadilova, Travis Lingenfelter, Tanya Andrusieczko, Bonnie Cherewyk, Stephanie Thompson, Fahimeh Behrang and Giustino Garcea. Missing from the photograph is Kwaku Mawuena.

8. Experience US

In October, the Department of Political Studies once again participated in the University's Experience US program, in which high school students from across Saskatchewan spend a day visiting the University. The department hosted four sessions over two days, introducing prospective students to our programs. Prof. Neil Hibbert, MA student Eric Macfarlane, and undergraduate student representatives from the International Studies program provided sessions with program and post-graduate information, and testimonial accounts of experiences while studying politics. The sessions were lively and the visiting students displayed impressive interest in, and knowledge of, a wide range of political issues. Thanks to all who participated for a job well done, and hopefully we see some of our visitors next fall.

9. Undergraduate Awards in Political Studies, International Studies, Public Administration and Aboriginal Public Administration

Several academic awards are available to graduating undergraduate students in the Department's programs. Some awards are made solely on performance in courses and programs. Students are considered without making application. Some other scholarships and awards require that students make application. Students are advised to check the criteria and application deadlines for these awards.

Some students were honoured shortly after our last newsletter was published: The following students received awards:

Most Outstanding Graduate in Political Studies (Hon. Donald Alexander McNiven Prize in Political Studies) - Robert Edward Martin

Most Outstanding Graduate in Public Administration - Sara McPhee

Most Outstanding Graduate in International Studies - Lane Krainyk

Political Studies and Public Administration Prize - Tara Longmire

Robert Elliot Book Prize - Lance Hammell

R. Macgregor Dawson Prize - Colton Fehr

10. Political Studies and Public Administration Students Society (PASS)

The Political Studies and Public Administration Students Society held a successful "Meet the Profs Night" at Louis on November 10. A good time was had by all.

PASS submitted the following report for the Newsletter:

The University of Saskatchewan's Political Studies and Public Administration Society (PASS) is proud to announce a new executive committee comprising of some of the best and brightest students in Arts and Science.

Members include President Trent Blezy, Vice President Daryl Hofmann, Treasurer Laine Goertz, Public Administration Rep. Scott Davidson, Political Science Rep. Christopher Thresher, Membership Chair William Lane, Social Director Shawn Parchoma, Member at Large Alanna Carlson and Secretary Theran Ulyyott. Returning this year is former President Bonnie Cherewyk taking on the position of Grad Student Liaison.

Our executive is pleased to announce our plans to further stimulate the student

experience for all of our members with a new partnership between PASS and Tequila Nightclub; a new social venue that we hope will prove to be a great meeting place for future PASS events.

Our executive committee is also exploring the possibility of partnering with STM for future social events. The continuance of our annual and ever popular “Meet the Professor,” Louis soiree, and soon to be announced events taking place throughout the school year!

PASS will also be working diligently to keep Political Studies and Public Administration students alert of the latest developments within our college. As always PASS will also play a leading role in the planning, organization and celebration of our Graduation Banquet ceremonies.

We hope to make this year as productive as possible for the students of Political Studies and Public Administration.

The following is a picture of members of the PASS Executive:



From left to right are Scott Davidson, Shawn Parchoma, Bonnie Cheriwyck, Daryl Hoffman, Trent Blezy, Will Lane, and Christopher Tresher

11. International Studies Students Association (ISSA)

The following is a photograph of current members of the International Studies Students Association:



Back row, left to right, are Jillian Cowen, Tara Weisgerber, Jamie Leonard, Chantal-Marie Hanson, Graham Burningham, and Luke Sather; front row, left to right, are Jay Nichvolodov, Michelle Biddulph, Leah Davison, Jen Scharfstein, Katie-Marie Burnett, Kaeleigh Heintz, and Jen McGuire.

Jen McGuire is the current President of ISSA. Jen Scharfstein will take over the reins in January.

12. Notes About Our Graduates



Dr. James Dosman (MA '69) was appointed as a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada this year for his remarkable legacy as a researcher in the areas of respiratory diseases, occupational diseases and agricultural medicine.

In addition to his degrees and certifications in medicine (SOM, MA, MD, FRCP[C], and FRSC), he completed an MA degree in our Department in 1969. This was after he had earned a degree as a medical doctor. His MA thesis was entitled *The Medical Care Issue as a Factor in the Electoral Defeat of the Saskatchewan Government in 1964*. The thesis provides an insightful account of the residual political effects of Saskatchewan's historic medicare debate that transformed the funding of medical services in the province (and shortly thereafter in Canada), and contributed to the end of CCF rule in the province.

Dr. Dosman has had an impressive professional career at the University of Saskatchewan. He served as Professor in the Department of Medicine. He also served as Director of the Institute of Agricultural Rural and Environmental Health when it was formed in 2001, and as Director of the Canadian Centre for Health and Safety in Agriculture when it was established in 2006. Currently he is serving as Distinguished Research Chair in Agricultural Medicine.

During his academic career, Dr. Dosman received numerous honours. In 2002 he was appointed as a member of the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission. In 2003, he was awarded the University of Saskatchewan Award for Distinction in Public Service and Extension, and in 2005, he was inducted into the Canadian Academy of Health Sciences. He received the Saskatchewan Order of Merit in 2005.

David Brock (MA, '04) was appointed the Chief Electoral Officer for the Northwest Territories for a four-year term that began on October 18, 2010. In previous roles, Mr. Brock worked in the Executive Council offices of the Government of the Northwest Territories and the Government of Nunavut. In his role as Chief Electoral Officer, David will report to the Legislative Assembly through the Speaker and will be responsible for the strategic management of territorial elections and plebiscites, exercising general direction and supervision over the administrative conduct of an election. In addition, the Chief Electoral Officer will establish policies and procedures, manage the Register of Territorial Electors, supply training and guidance to electoral officers, and provide advice and recommendations to the Legislative Assembly regarding elections legislation and policy

David Brock received an MA in Political Studies at the University of Saskatchewan in 2004. He also studied political science at Dalhousie University and the University of Western Ontario. He is a Fellow of Action Canada, a national program in public policy and leadership.

Louis-Philippe Dubois (BA Honours, '08) writes that “after obtaining my B.A. in Political Studies from the University of Saskatchewan, I realized that time was right to travel abroad. I found that teaching English as Second Language in Asia would offer me the best opportunity to achieve my goal. In September 2008, I packed my belongings and moved to the harbour city of Kaohsiung in southern Taiwan. I can truly affirm that it has been the most incredible experience of my life! The demand for native English speakers (who hold a university degree) is enormous in that country. Therefore, it was really easy to find a good-paying job. Within a month of my arrival, I was hired by a private school and started teaching classes to young students. I worked only during weekdays which meant that I had the weekend to explore Taiwan. I visited most corners of the country – the cities, the mountains, the gorges, the beaches, and the ocean. It was such a mind-blowing experience to live in a country that has a completely different geography, climate, language, and culture.

Louis-Philippe said, “I really enjoyed trying different food, visiting temples, and learning some words in mandarin. Moreover, I took advantage of holidays to visit other world-class destinations on the continent. In the 18 months I spent in Asia, I had the opportunity to travel to Japan, Hong Kong, Macau, Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, and the Philippines. I consider myself extremely privileged to witness cultures that are not well-understood in the West. I would definitely recommend any university graduate with a sense of adventure to consider the option of teaching English abroad.”

Sarah Bl y (BA High Honours, '09) (next page, right) graduated with High Honours in Political Studies and French from the University of Saskatchewan in 2009. She writes that, “as a fully bilingual francophone student, when I registered in the Political Studies career internship class in my 3rd year, I was encouraged to do my placement within the francophone community in

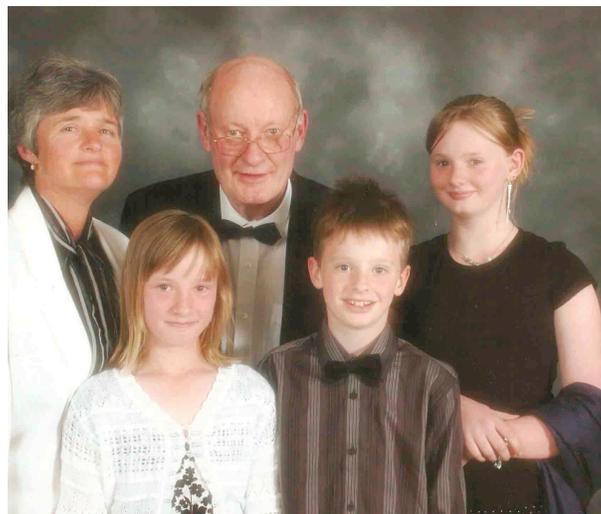
Saskatoon. After some research, I did my internship at the Fédération des Francophones de Saskatoon (La Fédération), a very multicultural non-profit organization that acts as an umbrella organization and mouthpiece within the francophone community. After completing my internship, my supervisor offered me a paid position there. Over the last 2 years I have continued working there part-time during the school year and full-time in the summer, to eventually rise up to the position of Coordination, which is right below the Director. Working at such a multicultural organization with a diverse global perspective fuelled my desire to work on the international scale. With the flexibility and support of La Fédération, I am very excited to be attending the University of Kent in Brussels, Belgium this fall to do an MA in International Relations and diplomacy.”



13. Special Feature: Visit of the Don Heasman Family

This summer, members of the Department had the pleasure of meeting retired Professor Don Heasman’s family during their visit to Saskatoon and the University. Don was a member of the Department of Political Studies from 1963 to 1992 and was Head from 1985 to 1991. Over the years, he taught a number of subjects in Political Studies, but his main interests were British government and political philosophy.

Upon leaving the University, Don went back to his native England and, with his wife Paula, raised three children (Sonja, and the twins Astrid and Alasdair). Don and his family still live in Kilmington in East Devon, England. This is a picture of the entire family taken a few years after Don’s retirement:



Earlier this year, Don's family decided to take a trip to Canada to see where he had made his home and built his academic career. In the picture below, Paula and the three children are standing outside the office that was Don's during much of his tenure at the University:



Following their visit, we asked the Heasmans to share with us their impressions of the University and Saskatoon. Paula wrote, “the views over the river, together with the 'living skies' (it took us a while to understand that!) were so beautiful. The university was magnificent with its handsome buildings and friendly campus feel. It is easy to see why Donald stayed for so long. I was very impressed with the advances being made to the medical science departments and would like to see the finished work. I would like to come back, especially out of curiosity to experience winter!”

Sonja wrote that, “I found Saskatoon to be a wonderful and interesting city. I thought the bridges were particularly pretty, although we got lost when mistaking one bridge for another! I really enjoyed visiting the university and I found visiting the synchrotron very enlightening (excuse the pun!) I liked the welcoming feel of the university- everyone that we met seemed genuine, interested and friendly. I would love to come back to Saskatoon, either as a student or a visitor and I have fond memories of everything we saw and did!”

Astrid thought that “Saskatoon is an amazing and beautiful place.” “It has fantastic weather,” she said, “Much better than England! Saskatoon also has some lovely buildings, a very long and tiring cycle path that goes along the river, and very welcoming and lovely culture.” She wrote that “the University Of Saskatchewan is a really fabulous place to learn, the facilities are AMAZING! The Synchrotron is really something special and, although I do not have the slightest idea on what goes on there, I do know that it is a remarkable science facility. I would love to study at the university in the field of kinesiology and sport.”

Alasdair wrote, “I really enjoyed cycling along the river; it's nice cycling without having to get off every 2 minutes to push your bike up a hill! I liked the grid system of the city, though we got

lost a couple of times! I was seriously impressed with how huge the university is, and I am particularly jealous of the sports facilities. I'd love to come back and experience them. I would definitely like to come back and visit, and perhaps attend the university on a student exchange program if it were possible.”

Members of the Department who had the opportunity to meet with Don Heasman's family found each of them charming and full of life. We enjoyed their visit at least as much as they did!

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Look for the next issue of this Newsletter is the Spring of 2011.