

**Fall 2001**

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL STUDIES-UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

# NEWSLETTER

No. 7, Fall 2001

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## WHAT HAVE DEPARTMENT FACULTY MEMBERS BEEN UP TO RECENTLY?

Commissioned Ridings: Designing Canada's Electoral Districts, by **John Courtney**, appeared this past summer. Published by McGill-Queen's University Press, the book examines for the first time the 'representational building blocks' that comprise Canada's parliamentary and legislative systems. **Bohdan Kordan** has recently published Canada and the Ukrainian Question, 1939-45: A Study in Statecraft (Montreal-Kingston: McGill-Queen's University Press, 2001); and Ukrainian Canadians and the Canada Census, 1981-96: A Data Profile (Saskatoon: Heritage Press, 2000).

**Kali Deonandan** presented a paper: "New Social Movements: The Fate of the Popular Church in Nicaragua," to the Latin American Studies Association, Washington, D.C., September 6-8, 2001. She also participated in a Workshop on Study Abroad Programs sponsored by the Canadian Consortium for University Programs in International Development, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, April 6-8, 2001. Kali Deonandan, **Joe Garcea**, **Peter Ferguson**, **Jeffrey Steeves** and **Ron Wheeler** all took part in the Governance-Development Connectivities: Inaugural Dialogue, organized by the International Centre for Governance and Development, University of Saskatchewan, 14-15 May 2001. **David Smith** presented a paper titled 'The "Westminster Model" in Ottawa: A Study in the Absence of Influence,' to a Conference on 'Canada and the End of Empire' at the Institute of Commonwealth Studies, University of London, London, UK, April 26-28, 2001. **Cris de Clercy** and Peter Ferguson gave a paper at the San Francisco meeting of the American Political Science Association, September 2001, on 'Pollsters and Hucksters: A Comparative Analysis of Poll Reporting in Canada and the United States.'

A new member of the Department is former Saskatchewan premier, **Roy Romanow**, who has been appointed Senior Fellow in Public Policy. His appointment was effective 1 April 2001 and will run to 30 June 2005, although he will be on leave from 1 May 2001 until 30 October 2003 in his capacity as Head of the Commission on the Future of Health Care in Canada.

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## FACULTY AWARDS

**John Courtney** will receive the University of Saskatchewan Distinguished Researcher Award at fall convocation, 27 October 2001.

Did you know that overall enrolment in Political Studies courses in 2001-02 is up by 15.6%? At the 110-level the increase is 14.9%; at the 400-level it is 33.7%!!!

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# WELCOME NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS!

*Left to right: Stéphanie Boisard, Ted Patterson, Jim Farney, Megan Murphy and Megan Furi*

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## NEWS ABOUT FORMER STUDENTS

**Martin Hering**, a former German exchange student (1993-94) and currently a PhD candidate at Johns Hopkins University, is finishing a chapter for Kent Weaver's new book, The Politics of Pension Reform: Lessons from the United States (Brookings Institution). This month Martin is speaking at the Max Planck Institute in Cologne where he will deal with theories of institutional stability and change.

Among last year's graduate students, **Dave Thomas** has enrolled in the PhD program in political science at Queen's University; **Ryan Dollimore** is a student at OSIE; **David Brock** is a policy analyst with the Nunavut government and has attended his first federal-provincial ministerial conference (Energy); and **Nancy Brown** is articling with Dufour and Company in Saskatoon.

Former student **Estela Dziadyk** (BA '90) is an Intergovernmental Officer with Saskatchewan Intergovernmental and Aboriginal Affairs; **David Miller** (BA '78), a senior vice-president with Hill and Knowlton Canada, has joined the Prime Minister's Office as a senior adviser. David and **Leslie Seidle** (BA '78) (Director, Policy and Research, Intergovernmental Affairs, Privy Council Office) wrote a joint term paper in 1975 in POLSC 420 which was later published in Public Choice 1976). **Gerald Seniuk** (BA '69) was recently appointed Chief Justice of the Provincial Court of Saskatchewan. **Darren Vallentgoed** (BA '00) has accepted the Queen's Commission in the regular force Navy. He is a Serving Officer on HMCS Iroquois, command ship for the Canadian Atlantic fleet. Since leaving the U of S, Darren has completed a Master's degree in international relations at McMaster University. **Jason King** (BA '01) is registered in the MPA program at Carleton University. He reports that 'having gone through the public administration program at the U of S has put me way ahead of the entering class. Because of the courses I took as an undergraduate, I ended up receiving advanced standing for six courses! So even before I started, I was a quarter done.'

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

On November 2 and 3, 2001, the Department, in cooperation with the Canadian Study of Parliament Group and the Saskatchewan Institute of Public Policy, is holding a conference on 'Independence and Responsibility: A Conference on the Officers of Parliament.' This will represent the first scholarly examination of the role and responsibilities of Officers of Parliament in Canada. Federal offices to be considered are the Auditor General, Chief Electoral Officer, Privacy Commissioner, Information Commissioner, and Official Languages Commissioner. The question of establishing the Ethics Counsellor as an independent Officer of Parliament will also be examined.

### Conference Programme

*Friday November 2*

- 8:45-9:00 Opening Remarks: John Courtney (Saskatchewan), Leslie Seidle (Canadian Study of Parliament Group), Raymond Blake (Saskatchewan Institute of Public Policy)
- 9:00-10:00 Jennifer Smith (Dalhousie)  
"Responsible Government and Officers of Parliament"  
Discussant: David Docherty (Wilfrid Laurier)
- 10:15-12:00 Roundtable Discussion: Dyane Adam (Commissioner of Official Languages of Canada), Sheila Fraser (Auditor General of Canada), Jean-Pierre Kingsley (Chief Electoral Officer of Canada), Bob Patterson (Chief Electoral Officer of British Columbia), John Reid (Information Commissioner of Canada)
- 12:00-1:00 Lunch
- 1:15-3:30 Alasdair Roberts (Syracuse)  
"The Commissioner as Regulator: Changing Strategies for Promoting Compliance with the Access to Information Act"  
Colin Bennett (Victoria)  
"The Privacy Commissioners of Canada: Powermongers, Pragmatists or Patsies?"  
Paul-Andre Comeau (Quebec)  
"The Quebec Model of Freedom of Information and Privacy: Outside Inheritance and External Influence"  
Discussant: Gordon Barnhart (Saskatchewan)
- 7:00 Dinner - Speaker: Paul Wells (National Post)

***Saturday, November 3***

- 9:00-10:30 Louis Massicotte (Montreal)  
"The Chief Electoral Officer of Canada"  
C. Michael MacMillan (Mount Saint Vincent)  
"Ombudsman or Active Conscience? The Commissioner of Official Languages as an Agent of Change"  
Discussant: John Courtney (Saskatchewan)
- 10:45-12:15 Denis Saint-Martin (Montreal)  
"Should the Federal Ethics Counsellor Become an Independent Officer of Parliament?"  
Sharon Sutherland (Queen's)  
"The Office of the Auditor General and Democratic Accountability"  
Discussant: Michael Atkinson (Saskatchewan)
- 12:15-1:00 Lunch
- 1:15-3:00 Paul Thomas (Manitoba)  
"Officers of Parliament: Past, Present and Future"  
Discussant: Duff Spafford (Saskatchewan)

3:30-6:30 Tour of the Campus and Closing Reception

On November 17th, the Institute for Society and Humanity will hold a one-day conference on the theme 'Self-Perception of Saskatchewan.' The Institute is sponsoring a centennial book to mark the province's centenary in 2005. The Conference is an early step in promoting discussion of the book's themes. Some of the book's twenty-three contributors will participate in the following panels.

**Conference Programme**

***Saturday, November 17th***

8:30 Registration

9:00-10:00 "Saskatchewan at its peak: Politics and Economics in the Twentieth Century."

10:00-11:00 "Self-Perception; Then and Now."

11:00-12:00 Present Conditions

Lunch Speaker

1:30-2:30 "The Future: Problems and Opportunities."

**If you are interested in attending either of these conferences, please contact the General Office of the Department of Political Studies, (306) 966-5208, or e-mail: [\[political.studies@usask.ca\]](mailto:political.studies@usask.ca).**

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## SASKATCHEWAN LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The names of the first interns in the new Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program have been announced. They are: **Timothy Baker** (U of S, International Studies); **Jessica Waiser** (U of S, Political Studies); **Wendy Moellenbeck** (U of S, Political Studies) and **Maria Kurylo** (U of S, Political Studies). CONGRATULATIONS!!

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## PASS

**(Political Studies & Public Administration Students' Society)**

**EXECUTIVE MEMBERS FOR 2001-02**

PASS Exec email address {[pass2001\\_2002@hotmail.com](mailto:pass2001_2002@hotmail.com)}

Tanis Halpape, President {[thsummer2000@hotmail.com](mailto:thsummer2000@hotmail.com)}

Dion Curry, VP External {[dion.curry@sk.sympatico.ca](mailto:dion.curry@sk.sympatico.ca)}

Karla Radloff, VP Internal {[karlaradloff@hotmail.com](mailto:karlaradloff@hotmail.com)}

Eric Horner, 1st year rep {[six8nioul@hotmail.com](mailto:six8nioul@hotmail.com)}

Ryan Davies, 2nd year rep {[ryan\\_davies99@hotmail.com](mailto:ryan_davies99@hotmail.com)}  
Wendy Moellenbeck, 3rd yr. rep {[iwascrazyonce@hotmail.com](mailto:iwascrazyonce@hotmail.com)}  
Andy Livingston, 4th year rep {[andy@dlc.west.com](mailto:andy@dlc.west.com)}  
Kelly Homenick, 5th year rep {[kellyhomenick@hotmail.com](mailto:kellyhomenick@hotmail.com)}  
Clifton Smith, Social rep {[cliffs79@hotmail.com](mailto:cliffs79@hotmail.com)}  
Kelly Gould, Secretary {[gouldk@hotmail.com](mailto:gouldk@hotmail.com)}  
Nicole Pogue, Treasurer {[nfp147@mail.usask.ca](mailto:nfp147@mail.usask.ca)}  
Heather Woolard, POLST rep {[heather.woolard@sk.sympatico.ca](mailto:heather.woolard@sk.sympatico.ca)}  
Chris Tupper, Public Admin rep {[cmt828@mail.usask.ca](mailto:cmt828@mail.usask.ca)}

### Upcoming Activities

October - 'Pizza & Pool with the Profs' at Modern Billiards  
- Guest Lecturer  
November - Movie night  
- Volunteer Activity  
January - Beer night/Bowling night  
- Guest Speaker  
February - Pub Crawl  
March - Trivia night with the Profs and election pub  
- Graduation Banquet at the Willows

Also possibly a hockey bus trip if members are interested. Let us know what you think. Listen for announcements in class with the exact dates of events. Any suggestions or comments about events can be emailed to: [pass2001\\_2002@hotmail.com](mailto:pass2001_2002@hotmail.com)

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#### Department of Political Studies

University of Saskatchewan  
919 Arts Building - 9 Campus Drive  
Saskatoon, Sask. Canada S7N 5A5  
Telephone: (306) 966-5208 Fax: (306) 966-5250  
Web: <http://www.usask.ca/politic/>

Department Head: Professor D.C. Story (966-5224)  
Public Administration Coordinator: Professor J. Garcea (966-5222)  
Undergraduate Coordinator: Professor D. Spafford (966-5233)  
Acting Graduate Chair: Professor D. E. Smith (966-5219)

Newsletter: Professor D. E. Smith  
Newsletter Design: L. Burlingham