

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL STUDIES—UNIVERSITY OF
SASKATCHEWAN

NEWSLETTER

No. 17, Fall 2006

FACULTY NEWS

Michael Atkinson and Gerald Bierling won the 2006 John McMenemy Prize for their article, 'Politicians, the Public and Political Ethics: Worlds Apart,' *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, December 2005. This prize is awarded to the author or authors of the best article in English or French, in the CPSA journal. Atkinson's and Bierling's analysis examines the divide which exists between public opinion and that of political elites when it comes to ethical issues and investigates the implications of this for ethics regulation.



Gordon Barnhart was planning for retirement when the prime minister's office called him in April to find out if he was interested in a government job. 'I was semi-retired. I was still teaching part-time at the university ... and they (the PMO) were inquiring as to whether I'd be interested in coming out of my semi-retirement.' A week later, he was in Ottawa meeting with Stephen Harper, who asked him if he

would be willing to become Saskatchewan's 20th lieutenant-governor, replacing Lynda Haverstock. According to Barnhart, 'It's a great honour to be asked to take on this role and so we're delighted to be able to do it'. His investiture took place in August.

Bonita Beatty (former sessional lecturer) successfully defended her PhD dissertation in Edmonton in March 2006. She is doing her post-doctoral fellowship with the Indigenous Peoples Health Research Institute in Saskatoon this year.

Cristine de Clercy and Peter Ferguson have taken new positions with the University of Western Ontario. We wish them all the best in their new jobs.

John Courtney, Professor Emeritus in the Department recently gave a 990 seminar to the Department entitled "What if Canada Held a Commons' Redistribution in 2006?"

Kalowatie Deonandan recently gave two conference papers. The first was 'Corruption and Development in Latin America,' which was presented at the CPSA meetings in Toronto in June 2006, and the second was, 'Guyana's PPP, From Where to Where' presented at the

Congress of the Canadian Association of Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CALACS) in Calgary in September. In addition, she has published, 'Globalization, Democratization and the Corruption Pandemic in Nicaragua,' in the *Proceedings of the Conference on Re-Mapping of the Americas* (St. Augustine, Trinidad: University of the West Indies, 2005).

André Duvenhage, Associate Professor, University of the Free State, South Africa, taught (POLS 298.3) this summer for the Department, 'From Apartheid to the Rainbow Nation: The Politics of Transition in South Africa.'



Peter Phillips (along with collaborators from the University of Alberta and NRC Plant Biotechnology Institute) has been awarded \$850,000 over the next four years for research in genomics and economic performance. The project

entitled, *Designing Oilseeds for Tomorrow's Markets* is funded by Genome Canada. Phillips is also principal investigator in Genome Alberta's GE3LS project, *Translating Science: Genomics and Health Systems*, which aims to understand how genomic technologies are translated and used in health systems. Finally, he is co-applicant on a SSHRC Major Collaborative Research Initiative project, *Social Dynamics of Economic Performance: Innovation and Creativity in City-Regions*. They will study the structure and evolution of both regional and national innovation systems, the local and global dynamics of cluster development and the role of culture and creativity in city-regions.

Bill Rafoss (M.A. '05) is teaching Political Studies 205.3 this fall. He was in the Cayman Islands recently advising the government there on the process of establishing a human rights commission. Mr. Rafoss just had an article published in the *Justice as Healing Newsletter* (Native Law Centre - Vol 6, No. 3) on using Aboriginal elders to resolve disputes.

Robert Schwab will be teaching a course for Saskatoon Seniors Continuing Learning Inc. which offers non-credit courses to seniors through the U of S Centre for Continuing and Distance Education. The topic will be Study/Travel in India and it will be an opportunity for members of the public to hear more about what the university is doing in this interesting new approach aimed at giving students an 'on the ground' experience abroad.

David Smith



Professor Emeritus David Smith appeared before two Senate committees in September 2006: one was considering Bill S-4, term limits for Senators, and the other Bill C-2, the federal accountability bill. With respect to the first, the theme of his presentation concentrated on whether term

limits, as opposed to retirement at age 75, would compromise the independence of Senators. Regarding the second, Bill C-2, an omnibus bill, Professor Smith's comments focused, first, on its provision for a single ethics officer for the two chambers of Parliament in place of the current model where there are individual officers for the two Houses and, second, on the prospect of a statutory code of conduct in place of one based on convention. The threat of these changes to the Senate's independence constituted the basis of his testimony. It should also be noted that the University of Toronto Press (UTP) has recently issued Professor Smith's acclaimed work, *The Canadian Senate in Bicameral Perspective*, in paperback. Finally, the last volume in his 'parliamentary trilogy,' *The People's House: Theories of Democracy in Contention*, will be published (by UTP) in February 2007.

Jeffrey Steeves published an article in the July 2006 issue of the British-based journal, *Commonwealth and Comparative Politics*. Volume 44, Number 2, for his 'Presidential Succession in Kenya: The Transition from Moi to Kibaki.'



Don Story was presented with a Saskatchewan Centennial Pin in April 2006 by then Lt. Governor of Saskatchewan, Linda Haverstock, for his volunteer work in the community.

Zmud, Jill (former sessional lecturer) now holds a position with the Immigration and Refugee Board in Ottawa doing human rights research on various parts of the world.

A big welcome to our new grad students!



(L to R) Sean Fitzsimmons, Jasmine Calix, Jennifer Holden, Stacie Beever, Emmy Neuls, Jocelyn Orb, Chad Klippenstein, and Krista Bradley



India Study/Travel in 2006

The Department of Political Studies in collaboration with the Department of Religious Studies and Anthropology took twenty students to India for five weeks in July and August 2006. This study/travel program was designed for students with an interest in Indian religions and in the politics of South Asia. The students not only took courses, but also spent time studying and travelling in Northern India including Delhi, Vrindavan/Mathura, Amritsar, Jaipur, Agra, Dharamsala, Haridwar/Rishikesh, Varanasi, Sarnath, and Bodhgaya/Rajgir.

The Political Studies component was the course, *Turmoil and Change: Politics in Modern India* taught by Robert Schwab. It explored some of the political issues that affect India including Hindu-Muslim relations, caste politics, and regional identities. To view photographs taken over the course of this study/travel program, please go to:

<http://flickr.com/photos/schwabr/220664665/in/set-72157594244937726/>

STUDENT NEWS

Nancy Brown, (LL.B. '99, MA '01) was admitted to the Saskatchewan Bar in 2002. She is practicing law with the firm Dufour Scott Phelps & Mason, Barristers and Solicitors in Saskatoon. Her emphasis is in the areas of general litigation and family law.



Raj Chari (MA '93) was recently promoted to Senior Lecturer at Trinity College, Dublin. He has recently published a book on public policy in the European Union.

Paul Clemens (BA High Hons '02, LL.B '06) writes: 'I graduated from the University of Saskatchewan, College of Law, and started articling in Saskatoon with McKercher, McKercher and Whitmore, in June.'

Sean Fontaine (MA '00) writes: 'Howdy from Calgary! I just wanted to send a quick update on what I have been up to since the U of S. I have been in the energy sector in Calgary since finishing grad school, and have held roles in energy operations and trading, natural gas pipelines and electricity regulation.

I am currently Senior Advisor, Stakeholder Relations at Petro-Canada. My role involves strategic planning and implementation of public involvement processes relative to project approvals and relationship building with regulatory agencies, Government organizations, environmental NGOs, communities, etc. relative to our upstream exploration and development work. My Political Studies background has been useful in discussing the public interest with regulatory and policy agencies such as the EUB, NEB, DoE, etc.

I have been married to Catherine (a Saskatchewan girl) since 2000 and we have 4 year old boy and girl (twins) with a third kiddie on the way in September 2006.'



Ben Fowler (BA High Hons '04) completed his B.A. High Honours at the University of Saskatchewan, graduating in May 2004. He studied International Studies, specializing in Development, and earned a minor in Economics. Immediately following the end of his studies, he left for a position in an integrated rural development project of the Aga Khan Foundation in Coastal Kenya. While this opportunity was under the guise of an internship program offered annually by AKF, Ben was quickly given the role of Enterprise Development/Microfinance Manager and assumed full-time management of that department. The major focus of the work done during this period was on improving the livelihoods of the rural poor in the region through the identification and promotion of viable business opportunities.

To build on this work at a broader international level, Ben decided to leave AKF in mid-2005 to take a position with the Mennonite Economic Development Associates (MEDA). MEDA has three international aims: linking producers to markets, developing financial services targeting the poor, and building financial market linkages with developing country opportunities. Now working as a Consultant/Project Leader, Ben is managing 10 development projects in various parts of Latin America and Africa. He also engages in international consultancies, including most recently a stint in Afghanistan in January working for both the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and World Vision.

Jeremy Geddert (MA '03) will be starting a Ph.D at Catholic University of America on Washington, D.C. in August 2006. After graduating in 2003, he spent a year with the Parliamentary Internship Programme on Parliament Hill, then spent time traveling through Asia and teaching English in Peshawar, Pakistan. For the past year, he has been working as a Budget Analyst with Saskatchewan Finance.

Jennifer Holden, BA '03) 'I just returned from working in Sudan for 6 months with the International Rescue Committee (<<http://www.theirc.org>>www.theirc.org) as a Grants Manager, responsible for the administration of 45 separate grants totaling 25 million. During that time I gained a broader understanding of the numerous and serious issues that threaten the stability of all regions of the Sudan.

While the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) on January 9th, 2005 calmed the North-South war, the nation faces other, more immediate, threats including massive refugee flows, arms build-up, bird flu, land mines and ongoing regional political tensions.

Working with the IRC was very challenging and rewarding. I have fond memories of working 18-hour days completing reports, meeting with donors and beneficiaries, and traveling to project sites. It was an honour to learn about the diverse culture and areas of Sudan, but I was overwhelmed by the many complexities there and the challenges the country faces. I look forward to putting the knowledge I gained from this experience to use in completing my Masters in the fall of 2006 at the U of S.'

Dara Hrytzak (BA, '02) recently accepted a position with the Fraser Institute and is Energy Policy Analyst to their new Centre for Energy Policy Studies in Calgary.

Congratulations to our Master's students who defended their thesis in 2005/06. They are: Eric Woods, Michael Jordan, Jeff Walters, Ayuz Mukadam, Bill Rafoss, Gerelt Bayantur, Clare Pellerin, Ashley Metz, Rhiannon Stromberg and Lucilia Pereira.

Michael Jordan (MA '05) was hired in 2005 as a policy analyst with the City of Calgary, working in the Legislation and Policy Section of the Assessment & Tax Business Unit. He writes: 'Now, I have been given the added responsibility of research coordinator as well (with an increase in pay I might add). Primarily, my job is to advise the department, the mayor, and council on matters pertaining to assessment and tax issues. Secondly, I am responsible for drafting internal policies that have application not only business wide, but city-wide as well. I also assist the business unit in its fight against the province, and I am involved in providing research assistance to some committees: Innovation; Quality and Standards; and Intergovernmental Affairs. Also, I am in the process of completing a co-authored article for publication in a peer-reviewed journal. I wear many hats: economist, lawyer, political scientist, project manager, etc. (not to diminish any of those professions). Moreover, I have been sent on a few conferences in the short time I have been employed with the City. For example, I recently attended a conference in Charleston, South Carolina.

My ability to perform these tasks speaks very clearly to the type of well-balanced undergraduate and graduate education one can obtain at the U of S from the Department of Political Studies. Indeed, it was much more than Plato and Parliament. The Department should be proud of how

well its graduates are able to adapt and contribute to the development of not only public policy, but society as well.'

Jeff MacDonald (BA '06) writes: 'I will never forget my first year of University when I began my first term in the College of Engineering. After becoming a 'Christmas graduate' I took a first year class in Political Studies in term 2 and never looked back. In the fall, I will be attending the University of Victoria to work on my Masters in Public Administration. The two and a half year program will not only enhance my knowledge in the field of Public Administration but it will also provide me the opportunity to gain some practical experience through co-op work terms. I don't know what lies ahead after my Master's but I look forward to the challenges.'

Christine McDougall (BA High Hons '04) writes: 'My internship is with the Canadian Cooperative Association in Uganda and I am doing HIV/AIDS and Gender programming in cooperatives throughout Uganda. It is going very well and Uganda is an amazing place.'



Congressman Christopher H. Smith, NJ, Chairman of the US House Committee on International Relations' Subcommittee on Africa, Global Human Rights and International Operations; and Obang Metho, Director of International Advocacy, Anuak Justice Council. The Subcommittee held a hearing on "Ethiopia's Troubled Internal Situation", HR 4423, Mar. 28, 2006 (Washington, DC).

Obang Metho (BA '00) is director of the international advocacy for the Anuak Justice Council. In March Obang testified before a U.S. Senate committee in Washington about the genocide that took place in his Ethiopian homeland and about the Ethiopian government's role in the massacre of the Anuak people—a small minority group in Ethiopia and Sudan who live in the Gambella region of southwestern Ethiopia. 'It's a chance to tell these U.S. policy-makers that this government ... is not a government to be trusted,' said Metho. He calls it 'one of those lifetime opportunities to speak before a body with the power to raise awareness and create real change. We, each one of us, have a role to make a better world,' he said. 'We don't have to go to Africa to make a difference. Volunteer, do something, reach out to the community. Live your life to the fullest. Life is too short, so do what you think is best.' (see Saskatoon Star Phoenix, A8, March 27/06 for entire article). To see a copy of his testimony, go to:

<http://www.anuakjustice.org/>

Ayuz Mukadam (MA '06) recently defended his thesis titled 'Ethno-Nationalism and the Fijian Grassroots.'

Nicole Pogue (MA '04) writes: 'All is well here in Ottawa. I'm still working as an Analyst at Elections Canada. I'm really enjoying it and managed to make it through my first election in one piece!'

Marianne Possberg (BA Hons '04) writes: 'While finishing my final year at the U of S, I decided to teach ESL in Korea because it gave me an opportunity to travel, pay off a student loan, gain more work experience in a professional environment, and learn more about the world in general. While in Korea, I met a variety of interesting people, had some fascinating experiences, and learned a lot. I decided to return to Korea after I determined that it was part of a plan to save money, volunteer, and earn a job in politics.'

There are a variety of websites posting ESL jobs, such as <http://eslcafe.com/>. Contacting people who are already working or have worked in Korea is also a safe route, though be wary of professional recruiters. However, before accepting any job, *always* ask to speak to a foreign teacher in the school to ensure that the conditions are as you would expect. Ask about living conditions and arrangements, the exact duties expected of you, the school's reputation, and ensure that the government has licensed the school, (ie., the school pays taxes). Also, remember that a country like Korea does not conform to you; you must be willing to adapt to its norms. Living in Korea is a great experience, but keeping an open and positive mind is essential.

Michael Seiferling (BA Hons '04) has recently been accepted into the MRes/PhD program in Political Science at the London School of Economics which took in 9 of 90 applicants last year. The program is offered in both Economics and Political Science through the Methodology Institute. He was also awarded the Benjamin J. Sanderson Fellowship worth \$5,000.

Rhiannon Stromberg's (MA '06) research paper for the Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program (SLIP) won the Canadian Study of Parliament Group's national essay competition. Rhiannon's paper, titled 'An Opportunity for Change in the Functioning of Legislatures: Examining the Policy Field Committee System in Saskatchewan,' is about the new system of legislative committees which was first implemented by the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly last year. It involves original research and benefited from her access to individuals and files offered through SLIP. The judges considered Rhiannon's paper to be 'the best graduate student essay submitted to the contest.' They were 'particularly impressed by [her] primary research, and the contribution that [her] essay makes to our understanding of provincial legislatures in Canada.' The competition is open to community colleges, CEGEP, undergraduate, and graduate students in Canada. Prizes (worth \$1000) are given to the best paper submitted by students from each of these institutions. The papers may deal with any subject matter broadly related to parliament, legislatures, or legislators.

Jacqueline Thomar (BA '05) writes: 'I should be defending my thesis in September, it is almost under wraps. I have just started working as a Research Officer with University Advancement, and I have accepted a Sessional Lecturer position with the International Studies Program and will be teaching IS 200.6 this fall/winter!'

Jennifer Mary Welsh (BA High Hons '87) born and raised in Regina has been awarded the prestigious Trudeau Foundation Fellowship. Worth \$225,000 paid over three years, it is one of the largest monetary awards in the social sciences and humanities in Canada. 'I look forward to joining the community of scholars that the Trudeau Foundation has so skillfully established,' said Professor Welsh. 'Exchanging ideas within this network will help develop and sharpen my own thinking, and I am grateful to the Foundation for providing me with the means to focus broadly on the issues that I am passionate about.'

Fascinated by foreign affairs, she completed her Master's and Doctorate in International Relations from the University of Oxford, where she studied as a Rhodes Scholar. Today Welsh is a University Lecturer in International Relations at Oxford. Among her achievements is helping to create a school in the former Czechoslovakia in the 1980's that introduced former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe students to life outside communism. Today, she focuses on the changing conceptions of sovereignty in international relations.

Eric Woods (MA '06) writes: 'The fellowship I received this year was the Marusia and Michael Dorosh Master's Fellowship from CIUS at the university of Alberta. The award was worth 9,000. I presented a paper at a colloquium in March called 'Divergences and Convergences in the Canadian Context' at the University of Toulouse-le Mirail. My paper was titled 'Mainstreaming difference in Multicultural Canada.' In March, Eric defended his MA thesis titled 'Ukrainian-Canadians, Multiculturalism and National Identity in Canada.'

FULFILLING THE PROMISE OF A GOOD EDUCATION



'I have been to four post-secondary education institutions, but I will always remember my U of S experience as one of the best of my life. I had a great time, met many interesting and intelligent people, and gained invaluable knowledge and a wide variety of

applicable skills, all while setting myself up for the future. I fully recommend it.'

—**Jarad Hermanson, B.A. (High Honours) 2006**

'I am incredibly thankful for having picked the Political Studies department at U of S as my undergraduate home. The professionalism and genuine concern of the professors reflect their dedication to the success of students. I am fortunate to have been taught by such high calibre scholars! My experience in Political Studies was provocative, stimulating, interactive and engaging. The department has created an environment that is rigorous and at the same time relaxed and friendly. I have been instilled with confidence in my abilities to use the knowledge and critical thinking skills that I have gained throughout my program. I am now confident that I have a solid foundation to pursue graduate studies at McGill University. My experience has been invaluable!'

—**Christine Kennedy, B.A. (High Honours) 2006**

'A political studies degree allows for excellent professional and personal development. Upon my graduation I was pleasantly surprised at the career opportunities and academic opportunities that were presented to me. I believe that a degree in political studies is one of the most valuable that you can get.'

—**Chris Colonval, B.A. (Honours) 2006**

ANNUAL PRIZES AWARDED IN POLITICAL

Awarded in April/May:

- Donald Alexander McNiven Prize** (\$3000) – Alicia Wilkinson
- MacGregor-Dawson Prize** (\$500) – Christine Kennedy
- PASS Prize** (\$250) – Carla Nelson
- Robert Lawton Elliott Book Prize** (\$90) – Christine Kennedy
- Barron-Garcea Prize** (\$250) – Katherine Williamson
- J. D. Aebig Essay Prize in Canadian Government and Politics** (\$500) – Shauna May

Awarded in September:

- Benjamin J. Sanderson Fellowship** (\$5000)–Michael Seiferling
- Dorothy Jackson Nenniger Scholarship** (\$1500) – Patrycja Romanowska
- Phebe Winifrid Rowles Memorial Scholarship** (\$3000) – Krista Bradley
- Norman Ward Memorial Scholarship** (\$1000) – Jocelyn Orb

The Department is very pleased to announce that RAWLCO Communications has decided to fund an additional Legislative Intern in 2007 and 2008. The intern must be First Nations or Metis. This is a very welcome initiative that will strengthen and enrich the Saskatchewan Legislative Internship Program. SLIP will receive \$40,000 over two years from RAWLCO to fund the new internship position.

Looking back Forty Years... PROFESSORS EMERITI REFLECT....

By: John Courtney (Professor Emeritus)

Post-secondary education changed dramatically in Canada in the 1960s. With the first of the baby boomers arriving at universities and colleges by the middle of the decade, facilities, faculties and curriculum were rapidly expanded to cope with the vastly increased enrolments. New universities (York, Simon Fraser and Calgary among them) were created seemingly overnight. Community colleges and post-secondary technical institutes popped up in dozens of small and medium-sized cities across the country. Older universities, such as Saskatchewan, carried out an unprecedented expansion of their faculty and course offerings. It was an exciting time in higher education in Canada and, happily for prospective university professors, jobs were plentiful.

The Department of Economics and Political Science (a “joint department” almost as old as the university itself that did not split into two separate units until the mid-1980s) was no exception to the “rapid growth” pattern of the time. Between 1964 and 1968 the political science component of the department increased by an amazing 350 per cent! Seven new positions were created and I was fortunate enough to be offered one of them. I joined the University of Saskatchewan faculty in July, 1965 and spent the next 39 years of my life there.

The Department’s curriculum grew as quickly as its faculty in those days. Political science was then entering a more empirically and quantitative stage, as was reflected in such new course offerings as Political Sociology; Elections and Electoral Systems; Empirical Methods; and Parties, Pressure Groups and Opinion Polls. Course offerings in Public Administration, Comparative Government, International Relations and the Third World were expanded or introduced for the first time. Separate courses in Provincial Government and Local Government were created in recognition of the increasing importance of these orders of government.

The rapid growth of the professoriate and the shortage of specialists in certain areas meant that it was not always possible to find a ‘perfect match’ of teacher and course. In my own case, I taught local government for nearly two decades. I had no formal training in the subject, and apart from having voted in civic elections, I had little practical knowledge of the field. Perhaps because of this I grew to enjoy and to understand a subject which was clearly not one of my ‘specialties’ at the outset of my career.

Much remains the same today about the U of S as in my first few years. Certainly the Arts Building and its elevators (!) have not changed. Yet students today may be surprised at some of the obvious contrasts between ‘now’ and ‘then.’ Classes were held six days a week (yes – Saturdays until

12:30 pm). The Department of Economics and Political Science had four secretaries, one departmental assistant, and a departmental librarian. Like the professors, they too worked half-days on Saturdays. Graduate students were fewer in number, and sessional lecturers were even rarer. With few exceptions full-time faculty taught all the courses and graded all the assignments, tests and examinations. And without exception, two junior faculty members shared an office. Perhaps as a credit to those appointed, it should be noted that none of those ‘doubling up’ arrangements led to a major row or incident – at least none that has ever been recorded.

ADMINISTRATIVE NEWS

Lorrie Burlingham, who worked as the Department’s secretary for over 10 years, has moved to a new position in the College of Medicine. The Department wishes her all the best in her new post.

Bev Boden served as a temporary replacement for Lorrie, and she too will be moving on at the end of November.

Lindsay Griener is the Department’s new secretary, beginning November 20. Both faculty and students extend a warm welcome to her and we look forward to working with her.

Aboriginal Public Administration Students’ Society (APASS)

Aboriginal Public Administration offers students a broad but intricate knowledge base in the public, private, profit, and non-profit sectors of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal governmental affairs. Our group provides for student networking and hosts many events that deal with academic endeavours, as well as non-academic fundraisers and community events. Our mandate is based on mutual respect and building partnerships with the outside community and student body. Membership fees will be discussed in the future.

Please Contact Haley Gagnon or Allery
Carrier at: abc949@mail.usask.ca

PASS

(Political Studies & Public Administration Students' Society)

The 2006-2007 PASS executive would like to welcome all Political Studies and Public Administration students back for another exciting year. We invite all students, faculty and their guests to attend both our academic and social events. This year we are hosting numerous pub-crawls, pizza socials, Pool with the Profs Night, and several academic presentations. The annual Welcome Back – Pizza with the Profs was held on September 15, 2006. This fall, we once again sold PASS clothing. The PASS executive encourages everyone to take part and provide input into all PASS events. If at any time you are interested in volunteering or providing suggestions please email PASS President Malori Keller at mak173@mail.usask.ca. We look forward to representing our student body and wish all a successful year.

Following is a list of the PASS Executive for 2006-2007



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**Look for the next issue of this
Newsletter in the Spring of 2007.
The Department would like to
know what our former students
are doing now! Please submit
your news to:**

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