

Spring 2001

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL STUDIES-UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

NEWSLETTER

No. 6, Spring 2001

WHAT HAVE DEPARTMENT MEMBERS BEEN UP TO RECENTLY?

Joe Garcea was promoted to the position of Associate Professor in July 2000.

Kalowatie Deonandan participated in a DND seminar at the University of Manitoba in January on the future of Canada's Defence Policy and participated at the UN in March as part of a DND delegation examining Canada's peacekeeping role. In February she gave a paper entitled "Cheddi Jagan, Guyanese Marxist: Reformer or Revolutionary" at the Congress of the Canadian Association of Latin American and Caribbean Studies in Antigua, Guatemala.

David Smith presented a paper titled 'Indices of Citizenship' at a conference on A Century of Citizenship in Australia and Canada, sponsored by the Institute for Canadian Studies, University of Ottawa, Feb. 7-9, 2001. He also presented a paper titled 'Second Thoughts on Second Chambers,' to the Australian Studies Association of North America, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., February 22-24, 2001.

John Courtney participated in a "Seminar on Voter Participation" on February 16, 2001 in Ottawa sponsored by the Centre for Research and Information on Canada. He will deliver a paper on electoral reform to an Ottawa conference in early May sponsored by the Institute for Research on Public Policy.

Cris de Clercy and **Peter Ferguson** are giving a paper in early September on "Pollsters and Hucksters: A Comparative Analysis on Opinion Poll Reporting in the 2000 Canadian and American Elections" to the 97th annual meeting of the American Political Science Association in San Francisco.

Jene Porter was the organizer for the Conference for the Study of Political Thought which was held at the University of Saskatchewan on March 17, 2001. Papers were presented by Professor David Walsh (Catholic University of America), John von Heyking (U of Lethbridge), Barry Cooper (U of Calgary), Leon Craig (U of Alberta) and Camille Slights (U of Saskatchewan).

Russell Isinger was recently awarded \$700 from the U of Manitoba's John S. Ewert Memorial fund, and was also awarded \$2500 from the Department of National Defence's Security and Defence Forum. The money is to support research trips to Ottawa in support of the book on the Avro Arrow that **Don Story** and Russell are writing.

NEW LEGISLATIVE INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

The Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly's Board of Internal Economy approved a proposal from the U of Saskatchewan and U of Regina to establish a new Legislative Internship Program. A total of four third- or fourth-year students from the two universities will spend seven months-January through July-working as assistants to individual Members of the Legislative Assembly, learning about the political process from the inside. The program will start in January 2002. Applications are invited from interested senior U of S students who may be in Political Studies, History, Law, or another related field-and also from recent U of S graduates. Application forms will be available in April 2001, so students can apply and plan their 2001-02 academic year accordingly.

EXCITING CHANGES TO OUR CURRICULUM!

The Department has been involved in the review of its entire curriculum since last fall, and we have already made a number of changes to our program, including the introduction of a minor in Political Studies and the splitting of most of our 4th year seminars into two 3 c.u. courses. We have also dropped a number of prerequisites for some of our 2nd and 3rd year courses.

VISITING LECTURERS

Jane Jenson, Professor of Political Science, Director of the Université de Montréal/McGill University Institute of European Studies, and Director of The Family Network of Canadian Policy Research Networks since June 1999, was this year's Timlin lecturer (6 February, 2001). She spoke on "Social Citizenship in 21st Century Canada: Challenges and Options." Her lecture will be published and available at no charge from the Department.

The following visitors presented papers to the Department's graduate seminar:

Bill Coleman, Professor of Political Science and Director of the Institute on Globalization and the Human Condition at McMaster University, "Agricultural Biotechnology and International Regime Formation: An Assessment of the Prospects." (March 2001);

Cris de Clercy (BA '91, MA '92, currently an Assistant Professor in the Department), "Leadership and Uncertainty in Liberal Democracies." (March 2001);

Richard Jenkins (Post-doctoral Fellow, Queen's), "Election Campaigns: The Dynamics of Democratic Decision-Making in Canada." (March 2001);

Darin Nesbitt (B.A., '89, M.A. '90), Douglas College, New Westminster, B.C., "Retrieving Politics: An Examination of Charles Taylor's Political Thought" (March 2001);

Jocelyne Praud (U of Regina), "The French Movement for Gender Parity in Public Life." (November 2000);

Michael Byers (B.A. '88, U of S, D.Phil. '96, Cambridge), "The Law and Politics of the Pinochet Case" (October 2000);

Neils Gerard Röling, Chair of the Group Communications and Innovation Studies Dept., Wageningen Agricultural University in the Netherlands, "The Role of Government, Institutions and Policies in Supporting Sustainable Agriculture and Bolstering Rural Social Capital." (October 2000);

Peter Phillips (BA High Hons, '79), NSERC/SSHRCC Chair & Professor of Ag. Economics, U of S., "The Administrative and Political Questions Around Biotechnology." (October 2000).

- The day following the November 2000 federal election five members of the Department participated in a round table on the election. Students, faculty and several members of the local media were present.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

The Department has begun a process of strategic planning. The first step involved a Departmental Strategic Planning Retreat in January 2001. Out of the Retreat has come a 5-year Strategic Plan, which sets out a Statement of Purpose, Principles, a Vision and Key Strategic Directions. The Department will be working on its Action Plan through the balance of the year.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES & JUSTICE INITIATIVE

The Department is a partner in the new Indigenous Peoples and Justice Initiative, approved by University Council in February 2001. The Department's part in the initiative will be an Indigenous Public Administration Program, which we hope to have up and running by the Fall of 2002. The program will be designed to serve both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal students. For more information, please contact Professor Garcea, Coordinator of the Public Administration Program.

A LUCKY BREAK ...

Library Gets Old Canadian Documents-Quick thinking by Government Publications Head Andrew Hubbertz (a Professional Affiliate in Political Studies), netted the U of S Library a windfall of early Canadian provincial legislative records. Hubbertz says he happened to see an Internet note that the University of Minnesota Library wanted to give away the documents due to lack of space. "We jumped at it," he says-and the result was the receipt of about 90 cartons of old books and documents, in 40 large mailbags, at a cost of just \$1,600 (U.S.) to the Library. Hubbertz says the material may range in value between \$100,000 and \$250,000.

MODEL UN ASSEMBLY

Three students: **Audrey Lewans**, **Tanis Halpape**, and **Marieke Knight** received travel grants from the Dean of Arts and Science to attend the 21st Session of the Model UN Assembly in Edmonton, Alberta on March 2-4th, 2001.

NEWS ON FORMER STUDENTS

Calvin Hanselmann (BA '97, MA '00) has accepted a two-year position with the Canada West Foundation in Calgary as a research assistant.

Kiera Ladner (MA '94) recently had an article published in the *Journal of Canadian Studies* (vol. 35, No.2), titled "Women and Blackfoot Nationalism."

Sean Junor (BA Hons, '99) is moving to Montreal to take a job with the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation as a Policy and Research Officer.

Trevor Lynn (MA '98) has been promoted to Executive Assistant to the Speaker of the Senate of Canada.

Lyndon Epp (BA Hons '96) has accepted a position with the Office of Budget and Management, Alberta Treasury.

Amanda Cannon (BA Hons '99) has been teaching English and studying Japanese in Japan for the past year. She plans to continue for at least another year.

Martin Hering, a former German exchange student with the U of S and a Ph.D candidate at Johns Hopkins University, is currently in Germany doing research and delivering papers at various universities.

Richard Lockert (BA Hons '92, MA '97) is employed with the Saskatchewan Association of Rehabilitation Centres in Saskatoon. In 2000 he co-presented two workshops at a literacy conference in Calgary, was elected vice-president of READ Saskatoon, and wrote a short article on literacy that was published in *Rehabilitation Review*. He also helps to teach a public speaking/leadership course.

Arthur Whetstone (MA '74), who is president and CEO of Southeast Regional College in Weyburn, was recently elected second-vice-president of the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.

Bronwen Thompson (BA Hons '99) is employed with the Communications Branch of Saskatchewan Finance. She enjoys her job and says it allows her to put both her communications experience and political studies training to good use.

STUDENT ADVISING SESSIONS

Two sessions will be held: Wednesday, **March 21**, 2:30-3:30 p.m., and Thursday, **March 29**, 2:30-3:30 p.m. Both sessions will be held in 210 Arts Building. Please remember, there will be no advising after April 30 for students who are enrolled in the present academic year. Students requiring seminars for next fall, cannot register in such courses without receiving permission, which will be granted at the advising sessions. Advising for students in the **Public Administration Program** will be done by Professor Garcea Monday, **March 29**, 2:30-3:30 p.m., and Wednesday, **March 28**, 2:30-3:30 p.m. Both sessions will be held in 217 Arts.

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT!!

Duff Spafford, David Smith and John Courtney are organizing a conference on Canada's "Officers of Parliament." In partnership with the Canadian Study of Parliament Group and the Saskatchewan Institute for Public Policy, the Department will play host to the conference on 2 and 3 November, 2001 at the Delta Bessborough Hotel. The five Officers of Parliament (Auditor-General, Chief Electoral Officer, Privacy Commissioner, Information Commissioner, and Official Languages Commissioner) have been asked to present papers on their respective offices and responsibilities. Papers will also be presented by academics, provincial officers, former federal officers, and leading public interest group advocates. The conference will be open to faculty and students.

GREETINGS FROM GUATEMALA!!!!

An e-mail from a student presently on the Term Abroad Program in Guatemala ...

The University of Saskatchewan has many opportunities for students who are looking for adventure within their degree program. One such opportunity is the Guatemala Term Abroad. Right now there are 42 students from the U of S and U of Guelph studying Agriculture, Anthropology, Economics, History, International Studies, Political Studies and Spanish in the colonial city of La Antigua Guatemala. Additionally, students have the opportunity to speak with a variety of guest lecturers. The composition of the student body is made up of students from a variety of disciplines, but the courses and topics are of particular interest to students in Political Studies. Latin America can be a complex world, but it also makes for a great campus! Complementing the courses are field trips around Guatemala (and in some cases, Honduras), which add to the experience. Ancient ruins, army bases, jungles, waterfalls, and agriculture cooperatives are among some of the places that the students visit. Everyday is a surprise...Guatemala can be an unpredictable place...one that is perfect for Political Studies students!

Carrie Tait (For more information on the Guatemala experience, contact Carrie Tait in Guatemala by e-mail: cdt610@hotmail.com).

PASS ANNOUNCEMENT!

(Public Administration & Political Studies Students' Society)

ANNUAL GRADUATE DINNER

- The dinner is to be held March 24, 5:30 p.m. at the Willows. For further information or to purchase tickets, please see any member of the PASS Executive.

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