

WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY
POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT
NEWSLETTER FALL 2009

MODEL UNITED NATIONS
CELEBRATES A STRONG YEAR

Wichita State University Model United Nations team came home with eight awards, a record number, from the Midwest Model UN Conference in St. Louis where they represented Iceland, Kenya, and the Czech Republic. Award recipients included: Stacy Goss, Chris Hicks, Ceci Crosa, Tatiana Sibai, Logan Harrison, Drew Steadman, Sarah Cooper, Lily Wakim, Axel Chacon, Chevis Rebstock, and Katherine Paige.

At the National Model UN in New York, our delegates represented the Czech Republic and won Honorable Mention. The students enjoyed representing the country then holding the Presidency of the European Union. They celebrated the Opening Ceremony in the Great Hall of the General Assembly, and received a mission briefing from the Czech Mission spokesman, Dr. Borek Lizec. In their free time different members visited the Met, the Natural History Museum, the Statue of Liberty, the Empire State building, and China town.

INTERNS ENJOY
LEARNING EXPERIENCE

This year we had five interns in Washington D.C: Billy Griffith at Fraioli and Associates, Brandon Hottman at the Cato Institute, Courtney Howard with Capitol Associates, Carly Miller at the American Conservative Union, and Angela Scott with the Children's Defense Fund. In Topeka, Mollie Buller worked for Representative Delia Garcia. The Washington interns participated in a weekly seminar with guest speakers and weekly briefings on current political events.

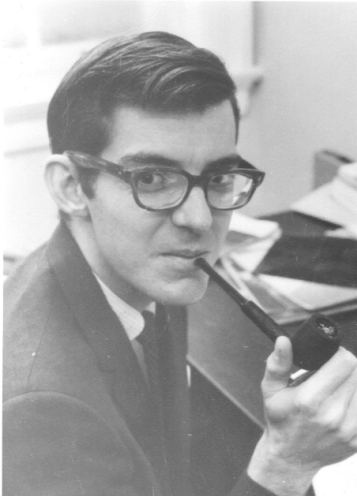


Model UIN 2008-2009

(L-R) Ceci Crosa, Alex Truong, Drew Steadman, Katherine Paige, Logan Harrison, Eva Kurban, Lily Wakim, Stacy Goss, Chevis Rebstock, Dr. Borek Lizec, Axel Chacon, Lisa Decow, Linda Michael, Sarah Cooper. Not pictured: Sarah Stanton, Chris Hicks, Michael Maina

FOCUS ON EMERITUS FACULTY

REMEMBERING DR. JOHN STANGA BY DR. MEL KAHN

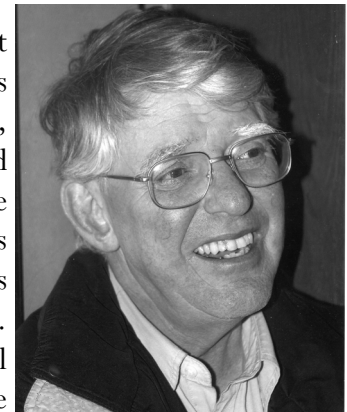


John Stanga, our highly esteemed colleague, died on December 30, 2008, at the age of 69. He is survived by his three sons-Tomas, Joseph, and John Peter. As colleagues, we respected him as a unique scholar, teacher, and friend. In an era often characterized by narrow specialization, he was a true Renaissance man-not only publishing and teaching in several fields of our discipline. Among his several journal articles, John published in the *American Political Science Review*, *Journal of Politics*, and *American Journal of Politics*.

John, a native of Louisiana, received his BA from Southeastern Louisiana College, an MA from Louisiana State University, and his doctorate from the University of Wisconsin. As the recipient of an NEH Fellowship, he later took a summer seminar from Nelson Polsby.

He began his career as a journalist covering Louisiana state politics, he served at Wichita State from 1968 to 2008. For six years he chaired the WSU department and was appreciated as one who encouraged his faculty. John never forgot his Louisiana roots and was an unmatched raconteur when entertaining friends with fascinating stories about the Long family and Lyndon Johnson. Among his varied interests were the avid support of personal liberties, wagering small bets on horses, and excelling as a gourmet cook in serving family and friends Cajun food, Louisiana gumbo, and his special bread pudding.

John, unusually rigorous and demanding in the classroom, earned the highest respect from his students as both a teacher and debunker of myths. His teaching manifested the maxim of Pericles, "The mind is a fire to be kindled, not a vessel to be filled." As a gifted writer himself, he demanded lucid and grammatically correct writing in all his classes. Moreover, his take-home exams in Constitutional Law and Civil Liberties achieved legendary status throughout the university. Uniquely, he created original hypothetical cases that did not lend themselves to correct or incorrect judicial decisions. Rather, he evaluated students on the quality of their logical analysis and legal reasoning. An indication of his unusually tough grading policy was the student scuttlebutt, "if you earn a C from Professor Stanga in Civil Liberties



or Public Law, you have the ability to succeed at a good law school." John's lasting impact is demonstrated by the careers of many former students. Political scientists at quality universities, successful attorneys, and judges at all levels, including the federal bench, provide vivid testimony to his legacy.

In honor of John's sterling legacy, former students and colleagues have joined with his sons in creating a pre-law scholarship in his memory.

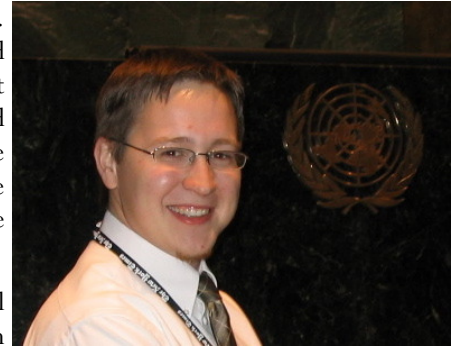
Contributions can be sent to: WSU Foundation, 1845 Fairmount St., Wichita, KS

SPOTLIGHT ON DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

The Political Science Department is grateful to those alumni and friends of the department who have endowed nine scholarships and contribute to the Annual Fund that provides additional scholarship funding. Below, we want to share the background on several of our endowed scholarships.

ROBERT AND PRISCILLA PARTRIDGE SCHOLARSHIP

As a child, Robert Partridge would attend court proceedings after school. "I'd get to listen to trials and be inspired by what the lawyers were doing and saying," said Mr. Partridge "There was never a time in which I did not want to be a lawyer." Mr. Partridge joined the Army at the beginning of World War II and soon after saw action in the European Theatre. Serving in the 104th Infantry's Timberwolf Division, Mr. Partridge fought back the Wehrmacht offensive during the Battle of the Bulge. For his efforts, he received the Bronze Star and Croix de Guerre.



Following the war, Mr. Partridge obtained his Bachelor of Arts in political science from the University of Wichita. After graduating from Washburn Law School, he married Priscilla Barron. Mr. Partridge partnered with Foulston-Siefkin and performed numerous community functions while living in Wichita. Among other public involvement, the past president of the Wichita Bar Association served more than a decade as director, president or member of the advisory board for the Wichita Area Girl Scouts Council where he was recipient of the highest volunteer award, the Ruth Robertson Award. In addition to serving their community, Mr. and Mrs. Partridge felt strongly about education.

The 2009-2010 recipient of the Partridge Scholarship is Matthew J. Agnew (above right).

Matt is a Senior, majoring in Political Science.

SARA HYDE CORBIN SCHOLARSHIP



Sara Grace "Sally" Hyde grew up in the College Hill area of Wichita. While at school at Stanford, she met and married Harry Corbin Jr., a graduate of WU in 1940 with a degree in political science. After obtaining her degree in Spanish, the two returned to Wichita. In 1949, Dr. Harry Corbin became president of WU, the youngest university president in the nation at the time. While Dr. Corbin was known for leading the fight to bring the university into the state system of higher education, Mrs. Corbin was greatly admired for her gracious and unwavering support of President Corbin. A well-read and cultured woman of strong principles, she was known for her conversational and organizational skills. In 1969, six years after the resignation of Dr. Corbin, she was diagnosed with myotonic muscular dystrophy. During her illness, she was accredited for her stoicism, never complaining of her situation. After her death in 1985, Dr. Corbin established the Sara Hyde Corbin Memorial Scholarship in Political Science.

The 2009-2010 recipient of the Corbin Scholarship is Eric D. Robinson (left). Eric is a Senior, majoring in Political Science.

Additional Scholarship recipients include: Tyler J. Emerson—R. Wesley McCarty Scholarship; Andrew C. Berg—Terry and DJ Scanlon Scholarship; Zachary R. Davidson—Lee and Helen Kamen Scholarship; Amanda T. Nguyen-League of Women Voter's Wichita Metro Scholarship; Calla M. Lipkovitch—Kathleen R. Edmiston Scholarship; and Elizabeth Biles, Armand Fruge, Christopher Hicks, Lisa Decow, Stacy Goss, Ashley Muench, and Tatiana Sibaii—Department Scholarships.

NEW SCHOLARSHIP ESTABLISHED

The department is pleased to announce the establishment of a new scholarship.

The James D. Phillips Scholarship honors Mr. Phillips who passed away on October 6, 2008. Phillips earned his BA and MA in political science from WSU in '57 and '58 respectively. He was a career diplomat with the State Department, serving for 33 years. He was the Ambassador to Burundi from 1986-90, and to the Republic of Congo from 1990-93. Upon retirement, he headed the Central Africa Foundation and the H.M. Salaam Foundation, and served on the Board of the Jane Goodall Institute.



DAVE ERICSON NOW IN D.C.

Last year Dave Ericson took a position at SUNY in Albany, but he and his wife are relocating again to join the faculty at George Mason University in Washington, D.C. He notes that although he will miss the outdoor activities in the Albany area, he is looking forward to being close to all of the events in the D.C. area. You can drop him a line at: dericso2@gmu.edu

LAW CAREER DAY EVENTS



Mel Kahn organized a successful Career Day event in the Department this past year, with several alumni returning to campus to share their experience with our students.

Last spring, Lee Kinch, attorney, Ted Ayres, Vice President and Legal Counsel to WSU, and Mike Pompeo, President of Sentry International spoke with students regarding future career opportunities. Students enjoyed pizza and had a chance to ask questions following the talks.

HOSTON HEADS TO HOUSTON

The department bids farewell to Dr. William Hoston who will be taking a job at the University of Houston, Clear Lake, this fall. The move will put him closer to family. Dr. Hoston was with the department for three years and did a remarkable job of reaching out to students and serving as a mentor. We will miss him.

WELCOME VICKIE STANGL



The Department is pleased to welcome Prof. Vickie Stangl who will be teaching two courses on American Politics this Fall. Prof. Stangl has taught in the department in the past, offering courses on political theory and Women in Politics. She has also served as an advisor to the College Democrats in past years.

SELECT FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Dinorah Azpuru:

"Trends in Democracy Assistance: What has the United States Been Doing?" *Journal of Democracy* Vol 19:2 (April 2008)

"From Peace to Democratization: Lessons from Central America" in Contemporary Peacemaking: Conflict, Peace Processes, and Post-War Reconstruction (2nd ed) by MacGinty and Darby (2008).

"Guatemala 2007: Un ano de contrastes para la democracia" *Revista de Ciencia Politica* (Vol 28:1)

Michael Hall:

"Democracy and Floating Exchange Rates" *International Political Science Review* (Jan 2008).

"Testing the Hollowing-out thesis" *International Interactions* (June 2008).

Mel Kahn:

"The Game of Politics Simulation: An Exploratory Study" with Kathy Perez, *Journal of Political Science Education* (forthcoming).

Carolyn Shaw:

"Connecting Students Internationally to Explore Post-Conflict Peacebuilding: An American-Canadian Collaboration with David Mendeloff, *Journal of Political Science Education* Vol:5:1 (Spring 2009)

"Legalizing Norms of Democracy in the Americas" with Darren Hawkins, *Review of International Studies* (July 2008), 34, 459-480.

MCKENNEY OFFERS CLASS ON
"GREAT DECISIONS 2009"

This spring, Retired Professor Jim McKenney offered a continuing education class on foreign policy issues including the Middle East, the rising power of China and India, and energy independence. These classes are very popular with members of the community who value learning for learning sake, even if they are not working toward a degree.

HIGH SCHOOL MODEL
UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE

The WSU Model UN participants led a new initiative this spring as the department hosted the first annual Wichita Model UN (WA-MUN) conference for high school students. This endeavor was launched based on the interest of local high school teachers as well as returning MUN veterans who wanted to challenge themselves a bit more. A total of 7 high schools—18 delegations represented by 54 students—participated in the first conference. Feedback was quite positive and we hope to grow this conference in the future. www.wichita.edu/wamun.

STUDENT CLUB ACTIVITIES

Students were very active in several different student clubs this year: the College Republicans, College Democrats, the Young Democratic Socialists, and two new clubs on campus—UNICEF at WSU, and a Pre-law club. Some of the activities sponsored by these groups included:

- A trip to DC for the Presidential Inauguration
- Meet the candidates events prior to the elections
- Annual Department picnic
- A Halloween fundraiser for children in need.
- Labor Film Festival
- Program on "How America Should Lead"
- Program on "Debt Hits Hard"
- March in support of the DREAM act
- Why Unions matter with Maria Escobar and Pat Lehman
- Voter registration drives
- Grass Roots Organizing Weekend-GROW

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WRITE TO US!

WE LOVE TO HEAR
FROM OUR ALUMNI

CELEBRATING OUR 2008-09 GRADUATES

Vitaly Eldani, Chase Fosse, Angelique Keller, Pierce Sanders, Matthew Blevins, Morgan Brammer, Carly Miller, Gregory Williams, Mildred Cherryholmes, Sarah Copper, Nathan Cox, Matt Goad, Keith Hansen, Garrett Harmon, Jerrod Higginbotham, Brandon Hottman, Scott Johnson, Larry Marczynski, Courtney St. Peter, Drew Steadman, Jared Welsh,



Cecelia Crosa and Dr. Carolyn Shaw

PI SIGMA ALPHA INITIATES

The Alpha Delta Chapter of the Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honorary Society is pleased to recognize our newest initiates: Cecelia Crosa, Jonathan Eshnaur, Todd Maddox, Larry Marczynski, Carly Miller, Katherine Paige, Morgan Rabon, Spencer Ward. Congratulations to these newest members. Our thanks to an alumna who called our attention to an error in the newsletter last year regarding the founding date of the chapter. After checking with the home office, we discovered that the WSU chapter was founded in 1938 and now has over 500 members.

