

# GVPT NEWS

May, 2007

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## GVPT WELCOMES NEW FACULTY

Welcome to New Comparative Politics Assistant Professor Jóhanna Kristin Birnir



The department is delighted to announce the appointment of Assistant Professor Jóhanna Kristín Birnir, who will be joining the GVPT tenure-track faculty in the Fall 2007 semester. Professor Birnir was previously an Assistant Professor at the State University of New York at Buffalo (SUNY). Jóhanna received her B.A. at the University of California, Irvine, her M.A. from the University of California, Los Angeles, and her Ph.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles.

Jóhanna has published 1 book *Ethnicity and Electoral Politics*, Cambridge University Press, and has forthcoming or published numerous articles in journals such as the *American Journal of Political Science*, *Comparative Politics Studies*, *Latin American Research Review*, *Studies in Comparative International Development*, *Research Policy*, and *Journal of Engineering and Technology Management*.

Professor Birnir is an expert in Comparative Politics focusing on political developments in the new democracies of Latin America and Eastern Europe. Currently on the National Academies Research Council's Department of Homeland Security Resident Research Associateship at the National Center for the Study of Terrorism and Response to Terrorism at the University of Maryland College Park. Jóhanna will continue the Associateship through the 2007/2008 academic year and will begin teaching classes in the Fall 2008 semester.

Jóhanna has done extensive field research in Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Chile, Romania and Bulgaria. She wrote her dissertation on "Party System Stabilization in New Democracies: The Effect of Ethnic Heterogeneity on Volatility of Electoral Preferences." We are excited to add Professor Birnir to our teaching staff and providing our students with her level of scholarship and our now broadened curriculum.

**Welcome to New American-Methods Assistant Professor Michael J. Hanmer**



The department is delighted to announce the appointment of Assistant Professor Michael J. Hanmer, who will be joining the GVPT tenure-track faculty in the Fall 2007 semester. Professor Hanmer was previously an Assistant Professor in the Department of Government at Georgetown University in Washington DC. Mike received his B.A. at the State University of New York College at Geneseo, received his M.S. in Economics from the University of Wisconsin at Madison, M.A. at the University of Michigan, and received his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan.

Mike currently has 1 book under contract with *Brookings Institution Press* “Does How You Vote Matter? The Not So Simple Act of Casting a Ballot. with Paul S. Herrnson, Richard G. Niemi, Michael W. Traugott, Benjamin B. Bederson, and Frederick G. Conrad, and has published articles in the journal *American Politics Research*. Mike has forthcoming articles in journals such as *Political Behavior* and *Public Opinion Quarterly*. He is currently revising his dissertation on the effects of electoral reform on turnout into a book length manuscript.

Professor Hanmer will make substantial contributions to the knowledge in American politics and quantitative methodology. Mike is a scholar who will help improve the department’s research profile and training of graduate students in quantitative methodology and American politics. His interests in American politics span voting behavior, public opinion, public policy, state politics, and election laws. We are excited to add Professor Hanmer to our teaching staff and providing our students with his level of scholarship.



### **MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR**

#### **DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS**

Please join me in congratulating the following 2007 Award Winners!

Professor James Glass has won the Kirwan Faculty Research & Scholarship Award.  
Professor Irwin Morris has won the BSOS Teaching and Mentorship Award.  
Professor Frances Lee has won the BSOS Excellence in Teaching Award.  
Graduate Student Gregory Shaffer has won the BSOS Excellence in Teaching Award.

**For Graduate Student Scholarship awards, please see our Graduate Studies Column. Undergraduate Student awards, please see our Undergraduate Studies Column.**

**Chair Lichbach's presentation on the STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT is available to our faculty upon request.**

Mark I. Lichbach  
Professor and Chair



### **MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES**

#### **Commencement**

The GVPT Department Commencement Ceremony will be held on May 21, 2007 at 2PM in the Record Armory. **We need faculty marshalls for ceremony.** Since this is a work day, we should have a full stage of faculty representing the department at this important event. To sign up as a volunteer, please email Jennifer Coarts at [jcoarts@gvpt.umd.edu](mailto:jcoarts@gvpt.umd.edu). The department will be hosting a reception for marshalls and special guests before the ceremony. Please plan to attend.

#### **GVPT Undergraduate Scholarship Winners**

**The Mary Elizabeth Roby Scholarship** was awarded to the two top female applicants based on their academic ability and interest in the field of government and politics. This honor was established in 1965 by the university's Women's Republican Club and is awarded annually to the two top female applicants, with preference given to citizens of Prince Georges County. The 2007 winners are:

**Annika Betancourt** comes from a very international background (her parents are from Colombia and Japan, respectively) and has found that her three years her at UMCP have greatly increased her awareness and interest in diverse cultures and international consciousness. In addition to serving as legislator in the SGA, Annika is active with cultural organizations on campus such as the Portuguese Language Student Association, Enlaces Latino Americanos, and is a dedicated officer to a value-based service group, World CARP. She also lead and organized the 1st Annual Young Latino Leadership Summit 2006 (and now upcoming 2007), a leadership conference held for underprivileged Latino high school students in Prince George's County. On top of her campus and community involvement, she works for the State Department and is also a Spanish Teacher for preschool children. Annika is fluent in Spanish, Portuguese and Korean and enjoys traveling and learning new languages.

**Lauren McKenzie** has maintained a 3.712 GPA while being active in research, off-campus internships, and volunteer activities during her three years at Maryland. In addition to her work as a research assistant investigating problems faces by families and children in Head Start, Lauren has also worked at the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation on Capitol Hill for the last year. She also demonstrates leadership on campus as the Vice President of her sorority, as well as the Black Student Union, Help Center, and Black in Government & Politics Society.

**The Brian M. Gardner Public Service Award** was awarded to two upper level undergraduate social science majors with preference given to students interested in a career and have demonstrated a commitment to public service and/or political science. This award fosters the education and development of outstanding undergraduates in government & politics. The award was established through the generosity of the family and friends of Dr. Brian M. Gardner to commemorate his many contributions and his longstanding commitment to public service. Dr. Gardner was a member of the University of Maryland community as a doctoral student in the Department of Government and Politics, a faculty member at the Institute for Governmental Service, and an adjunct professor at University College. The 2007 winners are:

While maintaining a 3.92 GPA, **Nicholas Chamberlain** has been involved in numerous campus and volunteer activities at Maryland. As an Associate in the CIVICUS Living-Learning Program, he serves as a mentor, service project leader, and teaching assistant to current Associates in this exceptional program. Within the Student Government Association (SGA), he serves as Inspector General, overseeing the individual and overall performance of the 75-member SGA and maintaining the organization's governing documents. In addition, Nicholas chairs the Constitution & By-Laws Committee, vice-chairs the Academic Affairs Committee, and is a member of the Provost Student Advisory Council (PROSAC) in SGA. Last semester, he was tapped for membership in the national leadership honor society Omicron Delta Kappa and is currently an active member of this prestigious organization.

**Sandee D'Elia** a rising senior who is dual degreeing in Government and Politics and Criminal Justice. She has a cumulative average GPA of 3.759 after 98 credits, and has made deans list 4 out of the 5 past semesters. She is currently interning as a paralegal at the U.S. Attorneys Office in Greenbelt, Maryland. As well, she is currently a member of the national honors fraternity Phi Sigma Pi, and has held leadership roles within the organization since she joined in the Spring of 2005. She also holds several jobs on campus with Campus Recreation Services, focusing on helping others and promoting customer service. Sandee hopes to continue her studies once she graduates in May of 2008 by attending law school.

**The Joe A. Oppenheimer Scholarship Fund** is an academic award that the Department of Government & Politics awarded to three sophomore GVPT majors each year. Students

are selected based on their demonstrated ability in GVPT coursework. The 2007 winners are:

**Matt Wagner** is a sophomore Government and Politics major, holding a 4.0 GPA and membership on the Dean's List. He has received of the Maryland Distinguished Scholarship, Maryland House of Delegates Scholarship, and Dick Kelley Memorial Scholarship. Matt is in the final semester of the College Park Scholars International Studies Program and is also a member of the Primannum Honor Society. Having tutored for the Washington, DC in For Love of Children tutoring program he currently volunteers for the Lakeland STARS tutoring. In addition to these volunteer activities, Matt is also an intern for the Minorities at Risk research project. In his free time, Matt participates in a variety of intramural sports, including soccer, basketball, and volleyball.

**Renard Sexton** is a junior Government & Politics Honors student, studying environmental politics and policy. He is also completing a minor in Hydrological Geology. His current research effort, "Public Policy Implications of Environmental Mechanisms," was recently accepted to be presented at the International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Sciences of Biology conference this summer in Exeter, UK. Sexton is also an avid musician, conducting the University of Maryland Gamer Symphony Orchestra, along with arranging, composing, and performing in baroque, romantic, modern, jazz, and musical theater genres. He enjoys playing rock guitar and piano. After college, Sexton plans to complete a joint J.D. and PhD in natural resources management. He aims to bridge the gap between science and policy development.

**Michael Bacharach** is involved a diverse area of extracurricular activities, such as the College Park Law Society, College Democrats, and the University Jazz Lab and Combo bands where he plays tenor saxophone. As part of the Scholars program, Michael acted as a mentor at Nicholas Orem Middle School and created a bilingual online resource packet which offers students tutoring information and homework help. In the future, Michael plans to attend law school and looks forward to finishing his Government and Politics major.

**The Kenneth G. Vaughn Scholarship** is an academic scholarship awarded to two rising juniors or seniors for the 07-08 academic year majoring in Government & Politics. Both must demonstrate leadership and community skills and the commitment to the field of government and politics. This honor was established in 2002 by the parents of Kenneth G. Vaughn and is awarded annually, with preference given to citizens of Prince George's County. The 2007 winners are:

**Cyrus Aghamolla** is a Government & Politics and Economics major with strong interests in political philosophy, game theory, and social choice. Cyrus is currently researching social choice problems at the Brookings Institution in Washington, DC. An avid chess player, Cyrus has won several chess awards while competing nationally and internationally and currently serves as Captain of the University of Maryland Chess

Team. In his freshmen year, Cyrus founded the College Park Law Society, which has grown to be a thriving student organization with over 200 members.

**Ekaterina Silina** is a junior GVPT Honors and General Honors student with a 3.92GPA and strong interest in constitutional theory and conflict of law. She is fluent in both Russian and Spanish and has completed over 21 credits of Arabic at the University of Maryland. Currently, she is enrolled in a graduate seminar on Islamic Political Philosophy as well as a mixed graduate and undergraduate seminar on history of Orientalism. She is also the recipient of various awards, including the Mary Elizabeth Roby Scholarship in 2005, the Maryland General Honors Scholarship, in 2005 and 2006, the BSOS Future Alumni Award, in 2005 and 2006, and the Maryland State Delegate Scholarship, in 2005 and 2006. In the summer of 2007 she will study abroad at Oxford University and after graduation she is planning to pursue a PhD in the field of political science.

### **University Medal Winner**

**Patrick Hughes**

### **Spring Commencement Speaker**

Rebecca Thompson

Wayne McIntosh  
GVPT Undergraduate Director



## **MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE STUDIES**

### **GVPT Graduate Scholarship Winners**

**The Jean Elizabeth Spencer Award** is given to an outstanding woman graduate student in Government and Politics and proves to have potential to make a contribution to the areas of state and/or local government or American politics. The recipient of the Award is known as the Jean Elizabeth Spencer Scholar and the 2007 winner is: **Ms. Elizabeth Freund**

**The Don C. Piper Fund** award is given to a graduate student in the Department of Government and Politics for the best conference paper or journal article and the 2007 winner is: **June Samuel Swinski**

**The Conley H. Dillon Award** is given to a graduate student in the Department of Government and Politics who is preparing their dissertations on the topic of public

administration, U.S.-IGR, American Government, or U.S. public policy and the 2007 winner is: **Rebecca Thorpe**

**The Roger H. Davidson Award** in American Politics is given to a graduate student in the Department of Government and Politics who writes the best paper in the field of American Politics and the 2007 winner is: **TBA**

Irwin Morris  
GVPT Graduate Director



### **MESSAGE FROM THE PLACEMENT DIRECTOR**

The “placement year” in academia begins in August of one year, for positions beginning in August of the next year. In 2006-07 there were an unusually large number of openings, especially in American politics, International Relations, and Comparative Politics. In a repeat of last year, new openings continued to appear well into April, although the bulk of ads for new jobs still appear in the fall. At this point, I am hearing regularly from departments looking for people for one-year replacement positions.

We had about fourteen people seriously undertaking a national job search this year. This includes a few people who were on the market last year and were perhaps too early at that time, and a few people who were a little early to search this year and started looking mid-year. In addition, we had about seven people doing limited searches. We had a number of people received many invitations to interview for a tenure-track position, and some people are continuing to interview even this late in the season. This year, unlike last year, no one that I know of received an offer of a post-doctoral position, and I do not know if fewer people applied. I have also not heard from anyone about a non-academic search, though in the past our graduates have had great success in getting professional positions outside the academy. Please let me know if I am missing any news!

According to people who have contacted me with good news, I am very happy to report the success this year of the following people: Ken Cousins (Political Economy, offer of one year at Western Washington U); Lorrie Frasure (American, tenure-track offers from UCLA and UC Riverside); Elizabeth Freund (American, Albright College); Adam Hoffman (American, one-year position at Gettysburg); Richard Longoria (American, 3-year position at National-Louis University); Marcus Schaper (Comparative, offer of one year at Reed College); Stephen Simon (American, University of Richmond); and Chris Whitt (American, Augustana College). Again, please let me know if I have missed anyone.

I am already preparing for the 2007-08 placement year. For academic job searches, the process begins this summer. I have scheduled a preliminary meeting, open to anyone with an inkling of interest (not just those who know they will be looking next year) for

Tuesday May 15 11-12:15pm. For those who think they may be job hunting this fall, you should be sending me your c.v. and other material starting in June so that I can review them and suggest revisions. By August 15, you should have a preliminary job portfolio on file with Ann Marie. We have a new brochure on the placement process which we hope will help you understand the academic search process.

The non-academic job search process is much more particular to your area of expertise. There is no routine framework that is clear and obvious to all, so it is more difficult to provide general advice. Please feel free to consult with me, and I will be happy to help.

Virginia Haufler  
Placement Director



### **MESSAGE FROM THE GVPT GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION**

Hi everyone!

Below is the spring calendar of events for the GSA.

## **GSA Calendar – Spring 2007**

Wednesday, 5/2	11:00 am	GSA Meeting – Tydings 1111
Wednesday, 5/9	11:00 am	GSA Tech Session
Thursday, 5/10 Lounge	3:00 pm	Coffee Break – Tydings 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor
Friday, 5/11 Course)	5:30 pm	Happy Hour @ Mulligan's (UMD Golf

We would like to thank all of you for making this year a wonderful experience. Your attendance at the tech sessions and social events demonstrated your support for the organization. We wish the new 2007-08 Board good luck in their endeavors and once again thanks for a great year!

Your GSA Co-chairs,  
Mike & Elizabeth

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## Graduate Student Association: 2007-08 Board

### Co-Chairs

Katie Baxter  
Alison Staudinger

### Admissions Committee

Carmen Deanna  
Jill Gloekler  
Shanthi Gonzales

### Graduate Studies Committee

Mike Beevers  
Elizabeth A. Bentley-Smith  
Anne Cizmar

### Undergraduate Studies Committee

Javiera Alarcon  
Mike McDonald  
Becca Thorpe

### Teaching Committee

Kimberly Karnes

### Graduate Student Govt Rep

Benjamin Newton  
Benli Shechter

### Social Chair

Jim Curry

### Professional Development

Ozan Kalkan

### American Field Rep

Melissa Bell

### Comparative Field Rep

Jeremy Boss

### International Relations Field Rep

Tony Marcum

### Political Economy Field Rep

Jesse-Douglas Mathewson

### CP4 Representative

Mike Evans

### Theory Representative

Jeremy Janow (Co-Rep)  
Greg McBrayer (Co-Rep)

### Formal Theory Representative

Maria Dimitriu (Co-Rep)  
Steve Wendell (Co-Rep)

### International Student Liaison

Javiera Alarcon

### GSA Webmaster

Jesse-Douglas Mathewson

### GVPT Awards Committee

Benli Shechter

### BSOS Policy and Curriculum Committee

Ozan Kalkan



News from the Texas frontier.\*  
by Gary Halter, Ph.D. Graduate from 1970

I entered the Ph.D. program at the University of Maryland in 1966 and received my degree in 1970. When I came to Maryland my primary areas of interest was IR and Comparative. For a number of reasons my interests' changes and I ended up with an emphasis on American politics and public administration. Several faculty members were responsible for my change of interest. Mavis Reeves, who recently passed away, was in large measure responsible for this change in interest, especially towards state government. Parris Glendonning and Jimmy Stevens also had an impact.

I left Maryland in 1969 and joined the faculty at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas. I soon became interested in what was happening in city politics in College Station. In 1975 I was elected to the city council and served until 1980 when I was elected Mayor. I served as Mayor until 1988. College Station has a council-manager form of government so I continued teaching at Texas A&M.

My time on the city council allowed me to apply many of the things from my professional training which improved the management of the city. I have also worked with the Texas Municipal League to improve training of council members and mayors.

Apart from city government, my other interest is the government and politics of Texas. I have a text book on Texas government published by McGraw-Hill that is in its sixth edition. I am a co author, with Harvey Tucker of the *Texas Legislative Almanac*.

\* Most people I met at Maryland thought of Texas as a frontier that had produced the likes of LBJ.



## **FIELD UPDATES - WORKSHOPS and SEMINARS**

### **AMERICAN POLITICS FIELD - WORKSHOPS and SEMINARS**

The American Politics Workshop is a bi-monthly research colloquium for faculty and graduate students. The workshop constitutes an ongoing research community where participants present and discuss papers in an informal, supportive environment. Papers are made available via the workshop website in advance of our meetings, and participants are expected to have read them. Discussion leaders are assigned on a rotating basis, matching papers with discussants who share complementary research interests. Many of the papers presented in recent years have gone on to publication in top tier political science journals.

The workshop is especially beneficial for our graduate students. It provides an excellent opportunity to interact with the American Politics faculty outside of the classroom and, for advanced graduate students actively engaged in scholarly research, the workshop can also be an invaluable source of professional advice. The American Politics faculty strongly encourages all of our graduate students to regularly participate in the workshop.

The Spring 2007 American Politics Workshop is now underway. We meet from 10:30 to 12:00 in Tydings 1111. The AP Workshop website is: <http://www.bsos.umd.edu/gvpt/apworkshop>. While the workshop focuses on issues in American politics, all faculty and graduate students are welcome to attend.

**Friday 5/4** -- Mini-Conference on the University of Maryland's Polimetrix Survey

## INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS FIELD - WORKSHOPS and SEMINARS

The international relations workshop brings together faculty and graduate students with an interest in international relations. We invite faculty and graduate students to discuss their latest research; present papers in progress, with a formal discussant; present information for professional development; and invite guest speakers. Students are strongly encouraged to attend and we would also like to see some students present their own work in the workshop. Students could present dissertation work or a conference. We meet approximately once per month on Monday at 11am. Students interested in presenting their work should contact Virginia Haufler at [vhaufler@gvpt.umd.edu](mailto:vhaufler@gvpt.umd.edu) or call at 301-405-4122.

### IR WORKSHOPS

#### **Monday, May 3rd, 11-12:15, Morrill Hall 1101**

Alexander Wendt, Ohio State University, "**Quantum Social Theory**" Discussant TBD

Alex Wendt, theorist and international relations scholar, asks how we might re-examine the positivist versus interpretivist debate in social science by examining the mind-body problem in the natural sciences. As he puts it, "what if the limitations of contemporary social science and philosophy of mind alike lie in their common assumption that the relationship of mind (ideas) to body (the material world) must be compatible with classical physics?" Philosophers and physicists alike have been examining this possibility for decades. What are the implications of quantum consciousness for social science?

You can read a chapter from a forthcoming edited volume, available at <H:// IR Research Workshop/wendt> quantum chapter.

#### **Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 11-12:15, TYD 1136**

Tony Marcum/ Jonathan Brown "**Models, Methods, and Relevance for Theories of Foreign Policy**" Discussant TBD

#### **Monday, May 14th (Co-sponsored with DC Area Workshop), 11-12:15, TYD 1136**

**Paper:** Thomas Flores, U of Michigan, "Evaluating World Bank Post-Conflict Assistance Programs" (with Irfan Nooruddin)

**Discussant:** Agnieszka Paczynska, George Mason University

## COMPARATIVE POLITICS FIELD – WORKSHOPS and SEMINARS

Throughout the course of the semester we will hold periodic gatherings for the comparative field, including social events, speakers, and special topic seminars (e.g. how to do research in the field, how to get grants to go overseas).

### DC AREA WORKSHOP ON CONTENTIOUS POLITICS

The DCAWP is dedicated to the rigorous study of contentious political phenomena including, but not limited to state repression/human rights violation, protest, civil war, genocide/politicide, everyday resistance as well as interstate conflict.

This workshop is meant to help authors refine and revise their work for publication. As such, we do not present/discuss work that is already published, but work in any other phase of completion is welcomed, including work that is just getting underway. We encourage both graduate students with papers and dissertation

chapters to present their work. We also encourage faculty members at institutions throughout the DC metro area to submit their work for consideration in future meetings.

The DCAWCP format is as follows: the paper is submitted to the group roughly one week prior to the discussion (or earlier if possible); everyone reads the paper and comes prepared to discuss; two discussants lead off the discussion with their comments on the work after which the author is allowed to respond; finally, the floor is opened to the audience for discussion.

The plan is to meet every other Wednesday of the semester in 0139 CIDCM Conference Room from 11:30-12:30pm. If interested in presenting or serving as a discussant/reviewer, then please provide a title and a date preference.

### Schedule for the Spring 07 semester are as follows:

#### May 2

**Paper:** Scott Gates, PRIO, will present his paper, "Post-Conflict Justice and Sustainable Peace" (with Tove Grete Lie and Helga Malmin Binningsbo).

**Discussant:** TBA

#### May 9

**Paper:** Johanna Kristin Birnir, U of Maryland, "The Paradox of Terrorism in Democracy Institutional Alternatives".

**Discussant:** Meredith Weiss, East-West Center

#### May 14 (Co-sponsored with IR Workshop)

**Paper:** Thomas Flores, U of Michigan, "Evaluating World Bank Post-Conflict Assistance Programs" (with Irfan Nooruddin)

**Discussant:** Agnieszka Paczynska, George Mason University

#### May 16

**Paper:** Tony Marcum, U of Maryland, "Regional Organizations and Norm Enforcement in Conflict"

**Discussant:** Jon Brown, U of Maryland

To find out more about DCAWCP please explore our website

<http://www.bsos.umd.edu/gvpt/davenport/dcawcp> where you will find a schedule, past papers discussed at the workshop and directions to the campus.

The DCAWCP organizing committee: Christian Davenport, Jack Goldstone, Paul Huth, Mark Lichbach, Jillian Schwedler. This year Paul Huth, Professor in the Department of Government and Politics at the University of Maryland and Research Director for the Center for International Development and Conflict Management (CIDCM) will organize the workshops. Please email Professor Huth at [phuth@gvpt.umd.edu](mailto:phuth@gvpt.umd.edu).

### FORMAL POLITICAL THEORY FIELD - WORKSHOPS and SEMINARS

Please watch for future emails and newsletters for more panels as we schedule them. All graduate students and faculty are most welcome, especially those with some interest in wars and/or game theory. A lot of really clever work has been done recently in this area. So even if you don't care at all about wars, and couldn't care less about game theory, you should come just to find out what is going on.

## **POLITICAL ECONOMY FIELD – WORKSHOPS and SEMINARS**

Please mark your calendars for the **Collective Choice Center Conference on Friday, May 18, 2007**. The theme of the conference is "The Political Economy and Institutions of Developing States."

The preliminary program includes:

Allan Drazen (University of Maryland, Economics)

Philip Keefer (World Bank, Development Research Group)

Paolo Mauro (IMF, Research Department)

James Robinson (Harvard, Government)

Contact: Irwin Morris, Razvan Vlaicu (Economics) and Piotr Swistak organizers.

## **QUANTITATIVE POLITICS – WORKSHOPS and SEMINARS**

The updated schedule can also be found on our wiki at:

<http://quantitativepolitics.wikia.com/wiki/UMd>

[http://quantitativepolitics.wikia.com/wiki/Main\\_Page](http://quantitativepolitics.wikia.com/wiki/Main_Page)

## **CIDCM CONTENTIOUS POLITICS SEMINAR SERIES**

The Contentious Politics Seminar will continue its Speaker Series. Please consult our website for announcements and dates. <http://www.cidcm.umd.edu/>

## **COMMITTEE ON POLITICS, PHILOSOPHY AND PUBLIC POLICY (CP4) WORKSHOPS**

The Committee on Politics, Philosophy, and Public Policy (known informally as CP4) is an interdisciplinary graduate specialization sponsored by the [Department of Government and Politics](#), the [Department of Philosophy](#), the [Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy](#), and the [Maryland School of Public Policy](#). The CP4 monthly workshop is an excellent opportunity to interact with faculty and graduate students across disciplinary lines.

Workshops take place one Friday a month, **2:00-3:30 p.m. in Tydings 1136**. The paper should be read in advance; speakers will talk only briefly before discussion begins. Please see <http://www.publicpolicy.umd.edu/prospective/specialization/cp4workshop.html> for a copy of the paper. To be added to our e-mail list, or if you have questions, please contact Mark Jacobs, the CP4 RA, at [mxjacobs@umd.edu](mailto:mxjacobs@umd.edu) or Prof. Judith Lichtenberg of the Philosophy Department, or Prof. Karol Soltan of the Government and Politics Department.



## **CENTER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Center for American Politics and Citizenship  
(CAPC)**

This semester has been very busy for the Center for American Politics and Citizenship. In March, the Center sponsored a Career Seminar in which GVPT alumni addressed a 170 American Government Class. The participants included: Ryan Duffy (Legislative Director to MD Delegate Ross), Matt Stempeck (Strategy Assistant at Echoditto), Jeff Davis (Legislative Assistant to Congresswoman Berkley, NV-01), and Amy Tenney (Associate at Jenner & Block). In April, we hosted a panel in which distinguished faculty and graduate students discussed the idea of peace in the Middle East. We had a large audience turnout of undergraduate and graduate students, faculty from other departments, and guests in support of Dr. Shibley Telhami, Dr. Jillian Schwedler, and PhD Candidate Guy Ziv. We thank them for their participation.

CAPC has also sponsored voting workshops this April and May hosted in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and Salt Lake City, Utah. The day-long workshops included presentations by Dr. Herrnson and faculty from BYU, University of Michigan, and the University of Rochester. The symposiums sought to inform states' secretaries of states, and state and county election directors on the promise and performance of voting technology and systems. The workshop panels discussed contemporary challenges with voting, voter satisfaction and accuracy, and verification systems. For more information about these conferences, check out the CAPC website at [www.capc.umd.edu](http://www.capc.umd.edu).

Finally, CAPC participated in the University-wide Maryland Day on April 28. This is the fifth year the Center has participated in the event. At Maryland Day, CAPC demonstrated Maryland's voting machines, donated by Prince George's County Elections office, along with registering new voters and playing games. Also, this summer, CAPC will be hosting an undergraduate student through BSOS's Summer Research Institute. This student will be working on research looking at more detailed usability voting systems, and other topics such as competitiveness of state/district campaigns, and the internet, money and politics.

## **Center for International Development and Conflict Management (CIDCM)**

### **Summer Course: Multi Track Diplomacy**

Professors Edy Kaufman and John Davies will be teaching 'Citizens' and Multi-Track Diplomacy: Transforming Violent Conflict' at CIDCM beginning on June 25, 2007. This year the course will be using multi-track diplomacy to search for common ground in one of these three ongoing societal conflicts during an intensive weekend workshop. Wilson Named Dean of Annenberg School for Communication: On July 1, 2007 Dr. Ernest Wilson will become the Dean of Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Southern California. The faculty and staff of CIDCM wish Dr. Wilson the best in this new and exciting endeavor. CIDCM Researchers Look at the Impact of Armed Conflict on the Work of Peacebuilding Organizations

For the past year, Andrew Blum and Joseph Hewitt have worked on a project funded by the US Agency for International Development (USAID) that examines how various features of fragile states affect the work of peacebuilding organizations in Western Africa. Fragile states are characterized by frequent outbreaks of armed conflict, government crisis, dislocated populations, economic shock, and overall weakened human security. To help understand how peacebuilding organizations can be more effective at ameliorating the harsh consequences of these events, Blum and Hewitt administered a cross-national survey to assess how these events affect the ability of these organizations to carry out their missions. On April 24, Blum and Hewitt presented some preliminary results of the research at USAID headquarters. Overall, they report that almost every type of activity carried out by peacebuilding organizations is negatively impacted by different aspects of state fragility. However, they found that some aspects of fragile states have a less adverse effect than others. For instance, armed conflict makes organizational work far more difficult than the presence of only dislocated populations.

The onset of state fragility can also spurn positive developments within networks of peacebuilding organizations. For example, the researchers found that state fragility can generate greater innovation and collaboration among organizations.

The research results may prove helpful for policy-makers who wish to develop programs to better support networks of these organizations.

### [Bahá'í Chair for World Peace](#)

On April 18, 2007, the Center for International Development and Conflict Management (CIDCM), with the facilitation of the Bahá'í Chair for World Peace, launched a new lunchtime series called "Dialogues of Deeper Understanding." The goal of the series is to look for a deeper understanding of the events and issues of the day through dialogue and open discussion.

For the inaugural dialogue, Professor John Grayzel, holder of the Bahá'í Chair for World Peace, moderated a discussion of Dr. Alireza Rabi's presentation on "Reading the Other Mind: The Lost Messages Transmitted between the East and the West." Dr. Rabi (professor, International University of Iran and visiting scholar, CIDCM), stated that both the East and the West lack effective means of direct communication with each other, and so suffer from a high degree of mutual misunderstanding and even incomprehension. Western leaders, for example, communicate with the leaders of the East mainly through contact with Eastern elites and Westernized expatriates hailing from the East. For their part, according to Dr. Rabi, Eastern leaders interpret the Western leaders' messages based on their limited contact with Western representatives and on the writings of Eastern intellectuals.

The ensuing discussion, which centered around the image of America in Iran and vice versa, surfaced reflections on some underlying similarities and divergences that may contribute to the enduring frustration of those seeking to create a meaningful transformation in the relations between the two countries. Many of the uncovered factors are not generally articulated. For example, Dr. Rabi noted that American's belief in "Peace, Justice, and the American Way" is matched by an Iranian view of "Peace, Justice, and the Iranian Way."

Some participants thought that, in practice, this American self-image feeds its justifications of interventionism and then mystification at the less-than-positive response on the part of those being "helped." In contrast, the self image of Iran is often that of an historic and continued victim of great outside powers, leading to a self serving hold on victimization as a justification for further fighting. Participants in the Dialogues for Deeper Understanding discussion saw how both America and Iran could benefit from reflection on, and a modification of, behaviors that feed the other's negative images.

The lunchtime series will feature at least three more dialogues (along with lunch), which will take place during both the Fall 2007 and Spring 2008 semesters. The next, on September 5, 2007, will focus on the new CIDCM *Peace and Conflict 2007* report, where Dr. Grayzel will moderate a discussion of the report's most interesting points.

For information about upcoming Dialogues of Deeper Meaning, please contact Jan Tunney of the Bahá'í Chair for World Peace at <[jtunney@cdicm.umd.edu](mailto:jtunney@cdicm.umd.edu)>.

**Harrison Program**

**GVPT 'GREEN GROUP' GETTING ORGANIZED:** Several GVPT graduate students and faculty with interests related to the environment will be meeting periodically in the spring to talk about common interests and possible activities. Contact Ken Cousins at [kcousins@gvpt.umd.edu](mailto:kcousins@gvpt.umd.edu) to be added to the distribution list or for more information.



## **FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS**

### **Chapters and Article Publications**

**Charles Butterworth's** "Philosophy of Law in Medieval Judaism and Islam," in *A Treatise of Legal Philosophy and General Jurisprudence, Volume 6: A History of the Philosophy of Law from the Ancient Greeks to the Scholastics*, ed. Fred J. Miller, Jr. and Carrie-Ann Biondi (Dordrecht: Springer, 2007), 219-250.

**Chris Davenport's** "State Repression and Political Order" forthcoming in the *Annual Reviews in Political Science*, 2007.

**Doug Grob** has been invited by McMillan to contribute to the new *Encyclopedia of the Supreme Court of the US*. He is under contract to write the Encyclopedia's entries for two landmark cases: *Gibbons v. Ogden*, the landmark 1824 case that has influenced nearly two centuries of commerce clause jurisprudence, and *Massachusetts v. Environmental Protection Agency*, a case the Court decided just last month, ruling (over the Bush administration's objections), that the EPA has authority to regulate greenhouse gas emissions from automobiles for the purpose of addressing global climate change.

### **Grants and Awards**

**Frances Lee** has won the 2006-2007 BSOS Excellence in Teaching Award.

**Irwin Morris** has won the 2006-2007 BSOS Teaching and Mentorship Award.

### **Lectures, Presentations and Other**

**Chris Davenport** just presented the Riker lecture at the University of Rochester (April 24th). He is going to present (May 3rd) "the state's must be crazy: why authorities continue to repress" at "policing politics: how authorities channel social and political participation" at Brandeis University. Chris will be going to the Dominican Republic to assess the conditions of people of Haitian descent with the Robert F. Kennedy memorial (May 6-11).

**Scott Kastner** presented his "Credible commitments and national unification: Bargaining power and prospects for a PRC/Taiwan agreement." (With Chad Rector) paper at the ISA conference in Chicago, IL. on March 1. Scott also gave a presentation "Does economic integration between Mainland China and Taiwan reduce the likelihood of a military confrontation?" to the Princeton-Harvard China and the World Fellows Workshop, at Harvard University on March 22.

**Joe Oppenheimer** & Stephen Wendel will be presenting An Analysis of Context-Dependent Preferences in Voluntary Contribution Games with Agent-Based Modeling at the Conference of the French Economic Association - Association Française de Science Economique (AFSE) on Behavioral Economics And Experimental Economics: Lyon, France, May 23 - 25

**Ric Uslaner** was an Invited keynote speaker, "Corruption, Inequality, and Trust," at the Conference on "Social Capital: Building Bridges Between the Social Sciences," University of Aarhus (Denmark), April 19, 2007. Ric was also an Invited speaker, "Trust and Economic Growth in the Knowledge Society," Department of Political Science, University of Aarhus (Denmark), April 20, 2007.



## **GRADUATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS**

### **Grants and Awards**

**Gregory Shaffer** has won the 2006-2007 BSOS Excellence in Teaching Award.

### **Lectures, Presentations and Other**

**Tariq (Ahmad) Karim** featured in VOA TV's "On The Line " show during the month, in a panel discussion on Human Rights issues in South Asia, along with Professor Akbar Ahmed of American University. VOA TV programs are beamed overseas, but may be viewed locally at their website. On April 5, Tariq Karim was invited by the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars to participate as a South Asia expert in a workshop on Bangladesh convened by the Wilson Center's Working Group on Preventing and Rebuilding Failed States.

**Stephen Wendel** & Joe Oppenheimer will be presenting An Analysis of Context-Dependent Preferences in Voluntary Contribution Games with Agent-Based Modeling at the Conference of the French Economic Association - Association Française de Science Economique (AFSE) on Behavioral Economics And Experimental Economics: Lyon, France, May 23 – 25.



## SCHEDULE

### MAY 2007

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 <i>Presidents Forum 8am, SSU Grand Ballroom</i>	2 DCAWCP 11-12:15 CIDCM Conf.Rm.	3 IR WORKSHOP 11-12:15 TYD 1136  BSOS Award Ceremony 4pm, SSU Grand Ballroom	4 AP Workshop 10:30-12:00 TYD 1111	5
6	7 IR WORKSHOP 11-12:15 Morrill Hall 1101	8	9 DCAWCP 11-12:15 CIDCM Conf.Rm.	10 LAST CLASS	11 STUDY DAY  Faculty Mtg. 10-11am 1123 Taliaferro Hall  Tenured Faculty Mtg. 11-12:15 1123 Taliaferro Hall  GVPT End of Year Reception 12:30-2:30pm Location TBA	12
13	14 IR & DCAWCP WORKSHOP 11-12:15 TYD 1136	15	16 DCAWCP 11-12:15 CIDCM Conf.Rm.	17	18 Collective Choice Cntr Conf. ALL DAY	19
20 University Main Spring Commencemnt Ceremony 7pm, Comcast	21 GVPT Graduation Reckord Armory 2pm	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

\*\* For more details on calendar events you first need to set your Groupwise to access my calendar. Go to the little person in the lower left hand corner of your email, click Proxy, type under Name: Abu and my name should automatically come up. Click OK. Now you can use that little person to go back and forth between your email and my Calendar.

Now to access the calendar, click on the little person and select my name. Click on the Calendar, Select the Month of February, right click on the tab Month, click properties and select Month, then move up to place tab for the Month first. Click OK.

Should you see an event that you want more information on, right click on the event, click open. Should you require further information, follow instructions.