

# GVPT NEWS

September, 2005

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**FACULTY MEETING SCHEDULED FOR:  
Monday, September 26, 11-12:00 in 1208 Tawes Conference Room.**

**APSA-GVPT RECEPTION:  
Please join us for the GVPT Reception in the Marriott,  
Roosevelt Room from 7-8:30pm for refreshments and cash bar.**

**AMERICAN POLITICS “MEET and GREET”:  
A Luncheon for the American Politics faculty and graduate students  
on September 7th at 11:00 a.m in Tydings 1111.**



### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome Back! I hope everyone had a happy and healthy summer.

As GVPT NEWS' enters its third year of publication, I would like to restate the newsletter's purpose and content.

GVPT NEWS aims to build community among our faculty, graduate students, undergraduates, and staff. Our extended family, which includes alumni students and emeritus faculty, do many interesting and wonderful things, and this monthly newsletter aims to put us into better touch with one another's activities. To limit the clogging of your in-box, it is no longer sent via email but is posted on our revamped web site.

GVPT NEWS contains short messages from the chair, directors of undergraduate and graduate studies, placement director, GVPT Student Association, staff, and center directors. It also contains a list of recent faculty and graduate student achievements – the same list that is read at the beginning of faculty meetings. Our monthly columns on such things as scholarship, teaching, and grants will resume with the next issue.

Perhaps most importantly, GVPT NEWS has a monthly schedule of department happenings. This schedule, which will be accumulated from our Centers and faculty, allows us to learn about interesting and important speakers, workshops, colloquia, brown-bags, and meetings. The schedule also allows us to better plan activities around the 11-1 slots on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays that we have reserved for meetings and events. Faculty and Executive Committee meetings are scheduled for Wednesdays at 11. If you want to schedule a committee meeting, please check with Cissy. She can update the department's calendar, which appears at the back of this newsletter. If you take two minutes to set your email according to Cissy's instructions, you can have the schedule on your desktop.

I welcome your input into GVPT NEWS. I'll be asking many of you to write columns.

On to new business: I want to extend a welcome to our newest faculty member, Paul Huth from Michigan now located in 0145A Tydings. Paul's phone number is X48481. We also brought in 2 adjunct faculty, Dennis Coyle to teach our 431 class and Francene Engel to teach our 231 class. Both can be reached at X52817. I also would like to welcome back Anna Brettell, one of our own Ph.D. graduates who will be teaching GVPT 309B and GVPT 459A for us in the fall. Anna can be reached at X5-9710.

Let's make this an enjoyable and a productive year.



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

#### **Undergraduate Program Notes**

Welcome back to a new academic year! I hope that everyone had an excellent, productive yet relaxing, summer. We have announcements as you will see below, and it should be an exciting year.

#### **Three Course Limit for Undergrads**

The department will be continuing its policy of allowing undergraduate students to register for **NO MORE THAN THREE GVPT COURSES PER SEMESTER** in the fall. This policy was enacted to help students find seats in courses needed to graduate and prevent students from taking up seats in unnecessary courses.

The advising office may contact faculty regarding student registration or oversubscription because of this policy, requesting that students not be allowed to register for additional courses. We appreciate your help in enforcing this policy with our students and your cooperation during the hectic schedule adjustment period.

### Oversubscription and Registration Issues

Another semester has begun and the advising office would like to remind all faculty and teaching assistants the policies regarding oversubscription of courses.

Many GVPT courses have long waitlists, and students will be contacting instructors to be oversubscribed to courses. The advising office recommends the following priority for any oversubscriptions:

- 1) Senior GVPT students
- 2) Any GVPT student
- 3) Students who are attempting to enter the GVPT major
- 4) All other students

By giving priority to those who will be graduating and those students already in our major, we hope to be the most fair to students.

The process for oversubscription is very simple. If you choose to add a student to your course past the allotted number of seats, have the student pick up an "Oversubscription Form" on the bulletin board outside of 1147 Tydings. Instructors should fill out the form, including relevant section numbers, and sign the form. Students return the form to GVPT advising for final approval of the oversubscription.

The advising office will only deny students who have more than three GVPT classes. We will contact faculty individually regarding these special cases. Thanks for your help and contact Jennifer Coarts at [jcoarts@gvpt.umd.edu](mailto:jcoarts@gvpt.umd.edu) with any questions.

### Waitlist vs Holdfile

A quick reminder about waitlists vs holdfiles:

Waitlists are for courses that are filled. Students who meet the requirements for the course are placed in order on the waitlist and are added to the course when seats become available. It is a first-come first-served system.

Holdfiles are for students who do not meet the requirements for the course. For example, non GVPT majors are placed onto holdfiles because only GVPT majors are allowed to register for upper level GVPT courses. On the first day of classes, the holdfile is placed at the end of the waitlist.

Students must check in EVERY DAY while they are on the waitlist during the first two weeks of classes. If they do not check in, they lose their spot on the waitlist.

### Pi Sigma Alpha

Pi Sigma Alpha is beginning another new school year with many exciting events. Be sure to look for our recruiting tables and event information coming soon.

Pi Sigma Alpha has also won the prestigious "Best Chapter Award" for the 2004-2005 school year. Since this was the first year PSA has been on campus in over four year, we are very proud of this accomplishment. Congratulations PSA!

### New Degree Requirements

The GVPT department has been approved for a change in our undergraduate degree program for all students entering the major FALL2005 or later. The new policy effects two components of the major:

Students must complete MATH111, STAT100, or calculus in order to graduate (more advanced then the previously required fundamental MATH requirement).

Students must complete a more advanced skills requirement. This skills requirement states students must have completed the entire elementary level of a foreign language, as well as two quantitative courses (including above MATH requirement), and a third skills course which is either an intermediate level of a foreign language or another quantitative skills requirement.

Please feel free to contact Jennifer Coarts in Undergraduate Advising with any questions regarding this degree change. Please note that only students entering the major this semester or later will be under these new requirements.

### New Limited Enrollment Requirements

The GVPT Undergraduate Program has also strengthened is Limited Enrollment requirements. New students for the FALL2005 semester will have to have an overall GPA of 2.7, B's in GVPT100 & GVPT170, and C's in MATH111 or higher & ECON200 in order to gain admittance into the major.

By creating these more difficult requirements for students transferring into the major, we hope to eliminate some of the overcrowding in our courses and attract and retain excellent students for our major.

If you have any questions regarding the LEP requirements, please contact Jennifer Coarts in undergraduate advising.

Wayne McIntosh  
GVPT Undergraduate Director



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

Welcome back to GVPT students, faculty and staff! Ann Marie and I hope you had a restful (and productive) summer. This past year was a very productive one for our graduate students and our program, and we look forward to the same success this year.

Please join me in welcoming our entering class of 2005. The members of our entering class have substantive interests representing all of the primary fields in the department and are from all over the world. As has been the case for several years, competition for a spot in our entering class was intense. This class consists of about ten percent of the total number of applicants. We welcome you with high expectations.

Chris Whitt has been awarded a one-year dissertation fellowship by the Southern Regional Education Board. Congratulations, Chris!

As we welcome the entering class, we also want to recognize those who completed their degrees during the spring and summer of 2005.

### **Ayesha Aparakkakanamage**

Title: Globalization, Sustainable Development, and Environmental Problems in the Third World: A Case Study of Sri Lanka  
Advisor: Dennis Pirages

### **David T. Armitage**

Title: Enduring Dilemmas: Sources of American Ambivalence Toward European Defense Autonomy. The EOC and ESDP in Comparative Perspective  
Advisor: George Quester

### **Steve Aylward**

Title: Interjurisdictional Competition and Urban Area Fragmentation  
Advisor: Joe Oppenheimer

### **Margaret M. Brown**

Title: Has Hope Died? The Successes of Social Movement and Advocacy Organizations in the Post Civil Rights Era  
Advisor: Ric Uslaner

### **Colonel Kyung Yung Chung**

Title: Northeast Asia Military Security Cooperation Regime: Feasibility and Design  
Advisor: George Quester

### **Qing Duan**

Title: China's IT Leadership  
Advisor: Ernest J. Wilson III

### **Sara Glasgow**

Title: The Private Life of Public Health: Managing Chronic Disease in an Era of Neoliberal Governmentality  
Advisor: Dennis Pirages

**Kristina Handy**

Title: Civilian Control, Good Advice and Service Management: Three Elements of U.S. Civil-Military Relations Affected by the Goldwater-Nichols Defense Reorganization Act  
Advisor: George Quester

**Brad Hays**

Title: Party With The Court: Regime Politics and the Supreme Court  
Advisor: Mark Graber

**Adam Hoffman**

Title: The Effects of Campaign Contributions on State Legislators  
Advisor: Paul Herrnson

**Anthony Kammas**

Title: Brushing History Against the Grain  
Advisor: Vladimir Tismaneanu

**Charles Sanderson**

Title: Autocephaly as a Function of Institutional Stability and Organizational Change in the Eastern Orthodox Church  
Advisor: Margaret Pearson

**Jennifer Sklulte**

Title: Diaspora Politicians in the Baltic States  
Advisor: Vladimir Tismaneanu

**Fengshi Wu**

Title: Double Mobilization: Transnational Advocacy Networks in China  
Advisor: Ken Conca

We would also like to welcome the new and returning members of the Graduate Studies Committee: Profs. Ken Conca, Jim Glass, Scott Kastner, Soo Yeon Kim, Frances Lee and Ernie Wilson and GSA representatives Myonnie Bada, Diana Boros and Jesse Matthewson.

Irwin Morris  
GVPT Graduate Director



**MESSAGE FROM THE PLACEMENT DIRECTOR**

**Looking forward to 2005-06 Job Placements**

I want to start off the new placement year with some good news: Ivani Vassoler, a recent graduate who was working as a Lecturer in a temporary position at SUNY Fredonia, was just offered a tenure-track Assistant Professor position there! Obviously, she must have impressed them tremendously. Congratulations to Ivani!

At this moment in mid-August, there are approximately 21 graduate students planning to apply for academic jobs this year. Around 17 of them are on the market for the first time. A few are only planning limited searches—either planning to start the search later in the year after they have completed more dissertation chapters, or planning only a limited geographical search. Many of them met with me last spring to go over the process for applying for an academic position. Since that time, I have reviewed many *curriculum vitae* for everything from the information it contains, to the typos and fancy fonts that have to be eliminated. Any graduate student thinking of applying for academic jobs this year should have their placement files completed— including letters of recommendation — by the time they read this newsletter.

The list of interested faculty-to-be so far includes:

Steve Aylward (American), Andrea Bertone (IR), Nathan Bigelow (American), Bidisha Biswas (IR/ comparative), Jonas Brodin (theory), Mitchell Brown (American), Ken Cousins (comparative/ environment), Helma DeVries (comparative), Qing Duan (Comparative), Joshua Dyck (American), Eduardo Frajman (comparative), Virginia Grzelczyk (IR), Anthony Kammas (theory/ comparative), Joshua Karant (theory), Richard Longoria (American), Jen Lucas (American), Ozguc Orhan (theory), Waseem El-Rayes (theory), Marcus Schaper (IR), Carola Weil (IR), and Chris Whitt (American).

Please let me know if I have missed someone, or added someone to the list who shouldn't be there—yet. I should also note that we have at least a few graduate students who have indicated an interest in searching for a non-academic position.

Also at this moment in mid-August, the eJobs listing service of APSA shows there are 81 openings at the Assistant Professor level in American Politics; 68 in Comparative; 68 in International Relations; 23 in Theory; 10 in Methodology; 28 in Public Law; and 25 in Public Policy. A number of our students have been contacted already to interview at the APSA meeting, or otherwise encouraged to apply.

I will be re-vamping the Placement website soon, with the assistance of Mike Evans. I plan to highlight the students on the market this year, allowing interested employers (and you, too!) to see their names, specializations, C.V. and personal websites. In addition, I plan to add a section highlighting our past placements.

New and continuing students are welcome to come see me, even if placement issues appear to be something for the distant future. I am happy to share career and professional advice, regarding both academic and non-academic jobs.

Good luck to everyone!  
Virginia Haufler, Placement Director



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

Welcome back, everyone, and especially new students in the program. We're happy to be your GSA co-chairs this year and we are pleased to welcome you to our first meeting, scheduled for Wednesday,

September 21, to be held in Tydings 1111 at 11 am. We have big shoes to fill this year and are grateful for the instruction and mentoring of Jen Dabbs-Scuibba and Jenny Wustenberg, last year's GSA co-chairs.

First-year students please note: a first-year rep to the GSA needs to be chosen from among you. If you know another first-year (or you yourself) who would be good at representing the interests and concerns of first-year students, please email one of us (email addresses below).

Each student in the program has a brief bio on the website that includes research interests, hobbies and undergraduate institution. If you would like to submit your data to either myself or Shana Marshall for the website, we will make sure it gets posted.

We hope to have some fun social events this semester, put together by Sam Fayyaz, our Social Chair. If you have ideas for fun events, you can email him at [sfayyaz@gvpt.umd.edu](mailto:sfayyaz@gvpt.umd.edu).

See the list below to see all SGA officers and their roles. Feel free to contact any of us with questions or concerns.

**Your 2004-05 GSA Officers are:**

Co-chairs: Shanti Gonzales, Shana Marshall  
Admissions Committee: Laryssa Chomiak, John McTague, Rodrigo Pinto  
Graduate Studies Committee: Myonnie Bada, Diana Boros, Jesse Mathewson  
Undergraduate Studies Committee: Ila Singh  
Teaching Committee: Rebecca Thorpe  
Graduate Student Government Rep: Kim Karnes  
BSOS Council: Jose Morales  
Social Chair: Samir Fayyaz  
Professional Development: Joanne Manrique  
American Field Rep: John McTague  
Comparative Field Rep: Jenny Wustenberg  
IR Field Rep: Jennifer Sciubba  
Political Economy Field Rep: Chalinda Weerasinghe  
Political Theory Field Rep: Rene Paddags  
International Student Liason: Rene Paddags  
Informal CP4 Rep: Mike Evans  
GSA Webmaster: Mike Evans

Welcome (or welcome back) to Maryland!

Your GSA Co-Chairs,  
Shanti Gonzales ([sgonzales@gvpt.umd.edu](mailto:sgonzales@gvpt.umd.edu))  
Shana Marshall ([smarshall@gvpt.umd.edu](mailto:smarshall@gvpt.umd.edu))



**STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION**

### **GIFT FUND, WATER COOLER FUND, and COFFEE FUND**

It is the time of year to begin collecting for the gift, water cooler, and coffee funds.

1) If you would like to participate in the **GIFT FUND**, payments must be made in CASH for easy access to the fund. This fund is used for baby gifts, flowers, etc. sent to department members (Faculty, Graduate Students and Staff).

Faculty: \$25.00

Staff: \$10.00

Graduate Students: \$. 5.00

2) Over the summer, a water cooler was installed in the main office. For the water drinkers' **WATER COOLER FUND**, we are now collecting payments in CASH.

\$15.00 for the semester

\$25.00 for the year

3) For the coffee drinkers' **COFFEE FUND**, we are now collecting payments in CASH. Without the payment below, coffee will be \$.40 per cup. Please note: although the department staff will prepare the first pot of coffee of the day, the responsibility lies on those coffee drinkers to refill the pots if you take the last cup.

\$15.00 for the semester

\$25.00 for the year



4) For the **HOLIDAY RECEPTION**, we are looking at December 14<sup>th</sup> but NO DATE HAS BEEN SET IN STONE YET. We are also planning on reducing the reception this year to a wine, cheese and dessert event which will not cost you any contribution. If you know any reason that this date would not be good for the OVERALL department, please let Randy Roberson know asap.

### **COPYING/PRINTING**

The Department will continue to enforce the copy codes for faculty, grad students and centers. Faculty and funded graduate students are allowed 1200 copies per fiscal year (July 1 to June 30). IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT YOU DO NOT use your personal copy code for class copying. Each course will be assigned a new copy code per semester. MAKE SURE your graduate students use that code if copying. See Cissy for more help with copy codes, such as setting up a new account, making changes to an account, or deleting an account. For financial concerns, please see Randy Roberson.

Due to budgetary constraints and the large amounts of paper and toner consumed in this department, we have a software program that monitors printing usage by login name. At this point, we are using this software for informational purposes only. Please be selective about the types of material you choose to print. This is just a small way of preserving departmental funds.

### **PARKING**

Parking on campus is very tight due to the number of reduced parking spaces available. For lot A, AA and U permit holders; overflow parking is in Lot Z or Lot 1. Lot Z is near Cole Field House. You will have more chances of finding a parking space in Lot Z rather than in Lot 1. Please be advised that if you park in a lot that is not assigned to you or not an overflow lot, you will be fined. Double-check lot assignments on the back of your permit to confirm your overflow lots. If you have any questions, please ask Elizabeth Crowell or campus parking at X4-7198.

## **PAYROLL**

Please remember that when you need to make any payroll additions or changes, please fill out a payroll request form. This form allows us to determine what payroll paperwork the new employee will need. This form can be found outside Elizabeth Crowell's office.

## **PACKAGES/BOXES**

Please don't forget to pick up boxes and other packages that come in the mail. The student workers will place them on the floor next to the mailboxes as close to your mailbox as possible.

## **MAKE-UP EXAMS (Proctoring)**

The main office staff does not proctor or oversee make-up exams. Make-up exams will not be held in the GVPT Main Office Conference Room.

## **RETURNING STUDENT PAPERS**

The main office staff does not collect or return student papers. If you want to provide a pick-up service, give the students a time when you will be in your office for them to pick the papers up. Leaving papers out for the students to flip through is a violation of student privacy. The best suggestion is to ask the students to provide a self addressed and stamped envelope and you will return the papers to them.



## **GRADUATE STUDENT MENTORSHIP COLUMN**

**By Sam Fayyaz and Laryssa Chomiak**

### **First Year Blues**

The level of anxiety brought on by the changes and challenges posed by graduate studies can be enough for the most headstrong student to question the path he or she has chosen. Although one imagines the unsettling days leading up to comprehensive exams and the substantial pressure of writing and defending a coherent dissertation to be *the* heady – read: nerve-wracking - moments for young scholars seeking acceptance and enrichment in their circle of peers, your first year may be ranked among these in terms of importance and difficulty.

Maintaining a certain level of sanity and contentment while balancing all your reading, assistantship duties, time working with (and, hopefully, impressing) your cohort and professors, attending seminars, writing papers, and having at least a semblance of a social life, all the while being surrounded by people you are convinced are smarter than you in an as yet unfamiliar environment is a weighty challenge indeed. As two graduate students who have not gone unscathed (but certainly sane and content) after their first year of graduate studies we can tell you without hesitation that feeling a little green your first year is an unfortunate but wholly natural part of every graduate students' evolution as a young scholar.

For this month's mentorship column, we've reflected on our first year and identified some pieces of advice that might help you transition and adjust to your new life as a graduate student.

1. Developing strong and meaningful interpersonal relationships with your peers and professors within the department remains the premier remedy for the "first year blues."

2. Ann Marie and Cissy are at the center of our every-day existence as graduate students. Remembering that their work significantly eases our lives is a must.
3. Forming traditional study groups or other forums where you can exchange ideas and thoughts with your colleagues, while getting to know your peer's research and personal interests never hurts.
4. Graduate school should not be a compromise for your existing life. Even though you will get slammed with loads of new information and will often feel completely overwhelmed, do not abandon personal hobbies and interests.
5. Befriending your incoming year peers as well as other students beyond the somewhat pro-forma department environment can really ease any first-year anxieties. For instance, form casual "after-class" get-togethers on or around campus. For both of us, this has been a fabulous opportunity to meet students from other years, deconstruct our experiences, get advice, and make new friends.
6. Attending seminar series and other panel discussions is not only interesting but allows you to witness your faculty in action, and see what other students are all about.
7. Never hesitate to ask a question, no matter how silly it might seem. Both students and professors know what are going through and are more than willing to help you in any way they can.

We hope that you truly enjoy your first few weeks as graduate students. At times you will wonder why you ever signed up for this and at other times you will thank your stars for the amazing experiences and individuals you have crossed and will continue to cross.



### **Relationships and Networks**

**By: Stacy VanderVeer a Ph.D graduate of 1997.**

I value the diverse graduate education I received at Maryland, incorporating coursework in comparative, IR and theory. When I started graduate school at Maryland in 1990 I knew very little about doctoral programs or careers in academia. Fifteen years later, the academic I am today owes a great deal to a small number of UMD faculty members and fellow graduate students who greatly influenced my graduate education, academic career and personal development.

In particular, I can see the influence on my scholarship and teaching of Martin Heisler, Vladimir Tismaneanu, Ken Conca, Virginia Haufler, Miranda Schreurs and Mark Sagoff. One thing I know now, which I did not know in 1990, was how important my network of faculty would be to my career long after I left UMD in 1997. In the years since I received my doctorate, the scholars (and friends) on the list above continued to be important sources of information, advice and opportunities. Their work also continues to inspire my interests.

In 1990, I also did not know how important other graduate students would be to the tasks of completing the doctoral program and building an academic career. Without fellow toilers like Cynthia Burack, Jyl Josephson, Patricia Davis, Jennifer Yoder, Beata Czajkowska, Geoffrey Dabelko, and Diana Zoelle, I doubt I would have finished the doctoral program or survived my

years as an assistant professor. The relationships and networks we built in graduate school support me personally and professionally to this day. We are not all academics (though several are), nor all students of the same subfield of political science. However, we are interested in ideas, sound research and each other. We continue to share rough drafts and career advice -- and debate ideas over drinks. In other words, your graduate student colleagues can support you personally and professionally long after UMD.

To be frank, it is not the “GVPT program” that comes to mind when I think of graduate school. That is not what launched or sustained my career in academia. Ultimately, it was a set of invaluable relationships based on shared interests and passions that set me on this path. A relatively small number of UMD faculty members and graduate students helped me in myriad ways as I finished a dissertation, wrote grant proposals, published and learned how to respond to peer review, got a post-doc at Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government, landed an assistant professor position at the University of New Hampshire, and got tenure. Much of what was required to achieve these ends was not taught in any seminar in my graduate program. My GVPT coursework taught me a lot, but it was belonging to a network of amazing people that helped teach me how to achieve my goals.

BIO:

**Stacy D. VanDeveer** is the 2003-2006 Ronald H. O’Neal Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of New Hampshire. His research interests include international environmental policymaking and its domestic impacts, the connections between environmental and security issues, and the role expertise in policy making. Before taking a faculty position, he spent two years as a post-doctoral research fellow in the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard University’s John F. Kennedy School of Government. He has received research funding from the (US) National Science Foundation and the Swedish Foundation for Strategic Environmental Research (MISTRA), among others. In addition to authoring and co-authoring numerous articles, book chapters, working papers and reports, he co-edited *EU Enlargement and the Environment: Institutional Change and Environmental Policy in Central and Eastern Europe* (Routledge, 2005), *Saving The Seas: Values, Science And International Governance* (Maryland Sea Grant Press, College Park, MD, 1997) and *Protecting Regional Seas: Developing Capacity and Fostering Environmental Cooperation In Europe* (Woodrow Wilson International Center, Washington, DC, 1999).

stacy.vandever@unh.edu



## **WORKSHOPS and SEMINARS**

### **AMERICAN POLITICS WORKSHOP**

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.

Starting in September, the workshop will meet bi-monthly on Fridays in Tydings 1111 from 10:30 to 12:00. If you would like to attend the workshop, you can find the schedule on the AP Workshop website: <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.

#### **September 9**

Professors Jim Gimpel, Frances Lee, & Graduate Student Joshua Kaminski, Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland.

**“The Political Geography of Campaign Contributions”**

#### **September 23**

Professor John Wallis, Economics Department, University of Maryland

**“The Concept of Systematic Corruption in American History”**

#### **October 7**

Professor Geoff Layman, Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland

**“Party Polarization and Conflict Extension in American Politics”**

#### **October 14**

**Professionalization Session: Strategies for Job Search and Placement Success**

**October 21**

Professors Paul Herrnson & Irwin Morris, Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland  
**“The Impact of Presidential Campaigning on Support in Congress”**

**October 28**

**Professionalization Session: Strategies for Publishing in Political Science**

**November 4**

Professor Karen Kaufmann, Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland and Professor Ben Bishin, Department of Political Science, University of Miami.  
**“Power Struggles, Pan-Ethnic Ties, and Latino Political Behavior”**

**November 18**

Graduate Student Laura Hussey, Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland  
**“Are Social Welfare Programs ‘Pro-Life’? Individual Analyses of Low Income Women”**

**December 2**

Professors Mark Lichbach and Ric Uslaner, Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland  
**“Jews, Identity, Liberalism and Voting”**

**CIDCM SPEAKER SERIES**

Schedule for CIDCM Seminar Series 2005-2006, Fall Series, Mondays, 11:30-1pm, unless otherwise noted. Light lunch served.

**September 19**

Professor I.M. (Mac) Destler, School of Public Affairs, University of Maryland.  
**“American Trade Politics: What’s New?”**

For more background information on his presentation, please go to the CIDCM website.

**DC AREA WORKSHOP ON CONTENTIOUS POLITICS**

As the semester prepares to begin, we wanted to invite you to attend and welcome you to submit a paper for this semester’s workshop on contentious politics: repression, human rights violation, genocide, protest, civil war, terrorism, strikes, everyday resistance and interstate conflict. Any questions about the workshop you can contact Jack A. Goldstone, Hazel Professor of Public Policy at George Mason University, (703)993-1409 or email at [jgoldsto@gmu.edu](mailto:jgoldsto@gmu.edu). The project webpage can be found at: <http://www.bsos.umd.edu/gvpt/davenport/dcawcp/index.htm>.

**The objectives:**

- to improve our understanding of contention all over the world;
- to sharpen our theoretical and methodological tools to understand the phenomenon; and,
- to promote interdisciplinary communication among researchers from various fields who are interested in many parts of the globe.

**The format:**

- one unpublished manuscript (a maximum of 50 pages, including notes and end matter, accompanied by a one-page memo outlining what specifically is desired from the reading audience) is distributed one week prior to each session;
- two critics and a moderator are selected;
- at the designated session, critics open with ten-minute critiques of the paper, the author then replies briefly, followed by a period of question-and-answer

**The workshop will be held at:**

George Mason University – Fairfax, Virginia

Bldg. School of Public Policy, Rm TBA  
 Phone: 703-993-1409  
 Wednesdays, 12:00pm - 1:30pm

To facilitate greater access and participation of all members, some sessions will be held at affiliate institutions (University of Maryland, American University and the American Association for the Advancement of Science) as well as the home office of the American Political Science Association in Washington, DC. Individuals will be informed via email when a change of venue is taking place.

**For consideration:**

Please submit a paper title, abstract and date preference to [jgoldsto@gmu.edu](mailto:jgoldsto@gmu.edu). You will be informed of the selection committee's decision (Jack Goldstone, Christian Davenport, Jillian Schwedler and Mark Lichbach) and then a schedule will be placed on the net - after which time we will seek reviewers/critics for the different papers.

Sessions will begin September 21 and then take place on the following dates: October 5, October 19, November 2, November 16, November 30.

**CP4 FALL WORKSHOP**

Below is the list of fall 2005 workshops for the Committee on Politics, Philosophy, and Public Policy. Workshops meet on Fridays from 2-3:30 in 1136 Tydings Hall. This year CP4 will be ran by Professor Karol Soltan and he can be reached at [ksoltan@gvpt.umd.edu](mailto:ksoltan@gvpt.umd.edu) or 301-405-4135.

**September 16**

Andrew Levine, University of Maryland  
 "Is an International New Deal Feasible?"

**October 14**

Ramon Das, Victoria University, Wellington (New Zealand)  
 "Topic: TBA"

**November 11**

Adrienne Martin, National Institutes of Health  
 "Hope in Our Relationship with Medicine"

**December 9**

Dale Jamieson, New York University  
 "Topic: TBA"



**CENTER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**CAPC's Usability Study with the Maryland State Board of Elections**

The Center for American Politics and Citizenship is conducting a usability study of several voting verification systems (paper printout, audio, videotape, etc.) for the Maryland State Board of Elections. The study consists of an expert review and field tests. Part of the study will be conducted at polling places during the November 2005 elections in some Maryland municipalities. Another part will take place on campus. GVPT faculty, staff, graduate, and

undergraduate students will be invited to participate. Stipends will be available for students who wish to work on the project.

### Other News:

- Randy Roberson, the former CAPC Coordinator, recently accepted a position in June as the Director of Administrative Services in the Department of Government and Politics..
- Mel Freitag, who recently received her Master's and moved from the flatlands of Illinois, has been hired as CAPC's new Coordinator.
- Kaletta Moody, a Dillard University student, worked at CAPC this summer as a part of the University of Maryland's Summer Research Initiative. Kaletta made significant contributions to The Guide for Campaign Politics and the Voting Technology and Ballot Design Project, and she was a great asset to the Center.
- James Kelley is the new graduate assistant at CAPC for the 2005-06 academic year. Hailing from Calvert County in Southern Maryland, Kelley is a recent graduate of St. Mary's College of Maryland where he earned a Bachelor's in Political Science, Economics, and Public Policy. James's interests include campaign and elections, and aiding CAPC in its research on voting technology and ballot design.

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

### CIDCM SPEAKER SERIES

Schedule for CIDCM Seminar Series 2005-2006, Fall Series, Mondays, 11:30-1pm, unless otherwise noted. Light lunch served.

#### September 19

Professor I.M. (Mac) Destler, School of Public Affairs, University of Maryland.

#### **“American Trade Politics: What's New?”**

For more background information on his presentation, please go to the CIDCM website.

### The Democracy Collaborative

washingtonpost.com

### **New Step Urged to Stop Gangs: Data Collection**

*By Nick Anderson*

Washington Post Staff Writer

Thursday, August 25, 2005; Page T06

As educators, police and parents train their attention toward quelling gang violence, the leader of the Prince George's County schools is seeking to allay fears.

"Schools are still the safest place in the world for students," interim chief *Howard A. Burnett* said. "Research says that. It's true."

Still, it remains somewhat difficult to grasp the scope of the gang problem in Prince George's, Montgomery County, the District and other areas for a basic reason: a lack of data, or, perhaps, a lack of public data.

One message from gang experts at a regional school security conference held recently at Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Greenbelt was that law enforcement and other officials should keep detailed tabs on gang-related incidents to ensure that money and attention flow to the most urgent areas of need.

In schools, that could mean keeping track of the number of gang-related fights reported to principals or public safety officers in the county and the region. Or it could mean counting the number of gang graffiti tags seen on walls and scrubbed off. Or the number of gang-related suspensions and expulsions. Or the number of gang-related weapons possession violations. Or even the number of gang-related dress-code violations.

Naturally, deciding what is gang-related and what is not is a judgment call. But a Justice Department gang expert at the conference, *Phelan Wyrick*, said such judgments, coupled with the collection, synthesis and dissemination of data, are indispensable for forming sound public policy to respond to the gang threat.

In the absence of data, what drives public attention and official policies are anecdotes. There are, apparently, plenty of those. It's not just reports of gang-related stabbings in Montgomery this month. Nor is it just suspicions, which may or may not be based in fact, about gang activity in connection with recent stabbings and killings in Langley Park.

Consider this report from Principal *Sandi Jimenez* of Langley Park-McCormick Elementary School. She said the outer brick walls of her school were defaced with gang symbols, including the insignias of Mara Salvatrucha, before the end of last school year. Some of the graffiti, she said, depicted demons.

"The things they drew were ominous-looking," Jimenez said. "And the little kids got scared."

The graffiti were scoured quickly from the walls. Jimenez searched out MS-13-affiliated youths and spoke with them for an hour. They agreed, she said, to try to keep the school a safe (and graffiti-free) zone. But Jimenez cautioned, in an interview in her office, that the gang influence in Langley Park and several surrounding communities is strong. She estimated that at least half of her sixth-graders knew someone involved in a gang.

### **Camp Transforms School**

Some activists are jumping into schools with programs that are likely to pay dividends whether gangs are active or not. One of them is a summer school program at Nicholas Orem Middle School in Hyattsville.

The University of Maryland's Democracy Collaborative, a community initiative to seed good works and build bridges between the public and private sectors, teamed up with the school to provide a tuition-free afternoon camp for summer school students after they finished with morning reading and mathematics classes.

The project, which tapped artistic impulses of 125 kids, remade the appearance of a 44-year-old school that had been showing its age. Now abstract murals and stenciled designs adorn the walls. A courtyard garden is growing peppers, crepe myrtle, basil, sunflowers and other herbs, vegetables and flowers.

The Latin American Youth Center funded the project with a \$65,000 grant, a major step into Maryland for a nonprofit group based in the District. The university group pitched in about \$35,000 worth of in-kind services. The Boys & Girls Club of Greater Washington helped with transportation for field trips. The project helped rejuvenate a school that serves a low-income area and is seeking to boost academic performance.

Orem Principal *Kenneth Calvin*, as he showed off the makeover just before school opened this week, said: "I tell my children we are the shining light in the middle of the abyss."



**For Immediate Release**  
**August 24, 2005**

**Prince George's County's Nicholas Orem Middle School  
Attracts Unique Public-Private Partnership**

The University of Maryland's Democracy Collaborative brought together the Latin American Youth Center's (LAYC) new Maryland initiative, LAYC-Maryland Multicultural Youth Centers and the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Washington to offer a summer enrichment camp for 124 students at Nicholas Orem Middle School in Hyattsville, Maryland from June 23 to July 24. The camp featured activities such as creative writing and spoken word, digital media production, organic gardening, and opportunities to "makeover" the school with murals and other artistic creations.

"The camp was our first major venture in Prince George's County. It is an excellent example of how community-based organizations and schools can work together to enhance opportunities for youth" said Lori Kaplan, the Executive Director of LAYC. All expenses were paid by the LAYC-Maryland Multicultural Youth Centers. The Democracy Collaborative contributed additional resources including many hours of staff time before, during and after the camp. The Boys and Girls Club of Greater Washington covered transportation costs. The camp was completely free to participants.

The camp provided challenging and fun activities that complimented a morning academic curriculum. Students worked on beautification projects throughout the school that featured a 4 x 58 foot mural, life size wooden cutouts of students, stencils, and a student designed courtyard vegetable and herb garden, and more. In addition to the day-to-day activities, students took weekly daylong field trips that included the Smithsonian Folk Life Festival, the National Zoo, a tour of the University of Maryland (with a performance by the Blackout Collective from the DC Hip Hop Festival), and Six Flags Amusement Park.

The goal of the camp was to engage students' minds, bodies and imaginations. It stressed mutual respect across ethnic, racial, cultural, gender and economic differences. Nicholas Orem's diverse population

included African, Caribbean, Latino and African-American students. The 4-hour afternoon camp had a student/teacher ratio of about 10 youth to one adult. In addition, 14 high school assistants came from the Prince George's County's youth employment program.

"The collaboration was such a success that we plan to continue the garden and build upon the work begun in the summer throughout the entire academic year, inviting more University and community partners to join us," says Margaret Morgan-Hubbard, Director of the Engaged University Initiative for the Democracy Collaborative at the University. "Our objective is to have the University make a meaningful difference in the daily lives of all members of our community."

For more information:

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Kenneth Calvin, Principal, NOMS, 6100 Editors Park Drive, Hyattsville, MD 20782, 301-853-0840



washingtonpost.com

## At Md. School, Back to Class Isn't a Return to the Past

By Nick Anderson

Washington Post Staff Writer

Tuesday, August 23, 2005; Page A01

On the first day of classes for Washington area public schools, it was clear that spray painters had left their mark this summer in the hallways, stairwells and bathrooms of Nicholas Orem Middle School.

Rarely has the Hyattsville school looked so good.

The falcons, serpents and other stenciled designs adorning the campus were not the handiwork of gang taggers. Nor were the multihued murals at the front doors, nor the life-size plywood silhouettes of students tacked onto the walls in nearly every corridor.

The people responsible for remaking the school grounds: more than 100 students in a summer school project guided by Latino youth advocates and a University of Maryland community initiative. They even planted a vegetable and herb garden in a once-desolate courtyard.

"These hallways were really dark," David Aparicio, an eighth-grader, said as he showed off a corner splashed with eye-catching triangles. "We decided to use funky colors, lime green and light orange, to lighten it up."



Nicholas Orem Middle School students walk by a mural completed during the summer, part of an effort to brighten the Hyattsville campus. (By