

GSA Meeting Minutes - October 14, 2010

Announcements

- Zotero training course - The course was held on Friday, October 22. Thanks to Steve Yoder for leading the session, and for all of those who turned out. We plan on continuing this tradition throughout the year, so don't hesitate to suggest ideas for further training.
- LaTeX/BibTeX training course –This course will be held on Friday, November 19th, from 4:30-5:30pm in 1123 Taliaferro Hall. Ho Youn Koh will be leading the session. LaTeX is a free document markup language and document preparation system for the TeX typesetting program. BibTeX is a free reference management software for formatting lists of references that is typically used with the LaTeX document preparation system. For more information, see <http://www.latex-project.org/> and <http://www.bibtex.org/>.

Chair, Field Rep, and First Year Rep updates

- Tech liaison report (Jesse Mathewson) – Jesse has ordered 10 new computers: 5 to replace old ones in the lab, 5 to put in offices. He's also inquired about ordering a duplexer for the Grad Lab printer so we can print double sided (and is optimistic about this). Jesse is still looking for tech request submissions (besides a scanner and another printer), such as software. The following two requests came up at the meeting: having Stat Transfer installed on all office computers, and getting new mouse pads for the computers in the grad lab. If you have any additional ideas, email Jesse at jmathewson@gvpt.umd.edu.
- Social chair (Joe Wentz) – The DC Area PhD Student Get Together was held on Friday, October 22. Another GVPT happy hour is being planned soon. Also, Joe suggested holding a canned food drive to help support a local food bank. All the meeting attendees thought the idea was great, so stay tuned for further information about this effort. Finally, Joe mentioned that another touch football game might be organized.
- Professional Development (Molly Inman) - Molly shared results from the training survey. 33 people responded to the survey, and there was strong interest in having a GIS training session sometime during the spring semester. Molly is working with the department to organize this session, and will be in touch with more information once it is available.
- American field rep and American faculty search update (Jim Curry) –The American Politics Search Committee has invited six job candidates to come give job talks. Their names are listed below along with some information about each of them and their scheduled talks. Students meetings with the candidates are all at 2:30 PM in the department conference room, except Karol's who will be meeting with grad students at 1:30 PM. If you are interested in helping drive the candidates around or going to dinner with the candidates, contact Jim at jcurry@gvpt.umd.edu.

Patrick Wahlforth
<http://www.unc.edu/~pcwohlf/>

Patrick studies judicial influence on the executive branch and the effect of public opinion on the Supreme Court.

CV: http://www.unc.edu/~pcwohlf/wohlfarth_vitae%20--%208-10.pdf

Job Talk: October 28, 10am, location 1123 Taliaferro Hall.

David Glick

<http://www.dartmouth.edu/~dglick/>

David studies how those affected by legal changes (i.e. businesses, universities, hospitals) decide to respond.

CV: http://www.dartmouth.edu/~dglick/Glick_CV.pdf

Job Talk: November 2, 10am, location 1123 Taliaferro Hall.

David Karol

<http://www.american.edu/spa/faculty/karol.cfm>

David studies political parties, interest groups, elite opinion, and American political development.

CV: <http://www.american.edu/spa/ccps/upload/David-Karol-current-CV.pdf>

Job Talk: November 4, 10am, location 1123 Taliaferro Hall.

Nicholas Carnes

<http://www.princeton.edu/~carnes/>

Nicholas studies how imbalances in the class composition of political institutions (local, state, and federal) influence policy outcomes on economic issues.

CV: http://www.princeton.edu/~carnes/cv_carnes.pdf

Job Talk: November 9, 10am, location 1123 Taliaferro Hall.

Jordan Ragusa

<http://www.clas.ufl.edu/users/jragusa/>

Jordan's dissertation studies the dynamics of bicameralism on congressional politics.

CV: http://www.clas.ufl.edu/users/jragusa/Ragusa_Curriculum%20Vitae.pdf

Job Talk: November 11, 10am, location 1123 Taliaferro Hall.

Michael Minta

http://polisci.wustl.edu/Michael_Minta

Michael studies the effect of racial or ethnic group membership of legislators in the substantive representation of minority interests.

CV: <http://wustl.academia.edu/MichaelMinta/CurriculumVitae>

Job Talk: November 18, 10am, location 1123 Taliaferro Hall.

- IR field rep (Mark Shirk) and IR faculty search update (Jennie Wallace) –Information about all IR candidates and dates and times of job talks can be found in emails sent by Cissy. Please refer to these emails for detailed information.
 - Jennie also emphasized the importance of grad students attending the job talks AND the grad student meetings. The meetings and job talks provide great opportunities for students to learn first-hand about innovative research and the overall job talk process. Our attendance is also important for recruiting, as it demonstrates that we have engaged and interesting students. The grad

students meetings will be held either before (9:50-10:20am) or after (2:00-2:30) the job talks.

- Political theory field rep (Ashley Gorham) – Workshops are being planned. Stay tuned for more information from Ashley.
- Methods field rep (Jim Curry) – See Professional Development update.
- First year rep – The first year reps held their first grad lab clean up day on Friday, October 15. And the grad lab looks great! Thanks Ali and Anne for leading this effort. If you'd like to help out with the next clean up day, in November, contact Ali and Anne.

Old Business

- Grad lab mural update (Bryan Jervais) – The grad mural planning committee met and established a plan of action. The committee will first contact the Art Department, to ask about costs for painting supplies/other expenses. After collecting this information, the committee will move forward with next steps for drafting an announcement about the mural painting opportunity that will be disseminated across campus. If you'd like to get involved with the committee, contact Bryan at bjervais@gvpt.umd.edu.
- Grad survey – The Grad Studies Committee will be meeting sometime in October. Heather Creek and Jim Curry, who both serve on the committee, will ask about the status of this survey at the next meeting.

New Business

- Printer update – As of 10/22, the printer is back online. It's been checked out by a technician, and should be fully operational. Nonetheless, we recognize that there have been constant problems with the printer this semester, and we're working to get these issues resolved.
- To this end, we're holding an open meeting with our grad tech liaison, Jesse Mathewson, to discuss how we can best solve our printing needs. The meeting will be held on Thursday, October 28 at 4pm in Tydings 1136. Please join us if you're interested in being part of the discussion. We will make sure to send out minutes from the meeting, for all those who can't attend.
- Printer/computer protocol posted in grad lab – To help clarify the process for dealing with tech problems, we've posted instructions for computer and printer issues on the bulletin board in the grad lab. The instructions are summarized below:
 - For computer problems
 - OACS provides all tech support for our computers.
 - 1. Fill out a Work Order form through the OACS website - www.oacs.umd.edu. This is a simple 2-part process that requires providing your contact information (part 1) and details about the problem (part 2).
 - 2. Fill out a Grad Lab Work Order Form to help keep track of submitted work order (copies posted on bulletin). This is a simple 2-part process

- that requires filling out the form (part 1) and then taping the form on the keyboard of the broken computer (part 2).
- For printer problems - If the printer runs out of paper or toner
 - The GVPT office on the 3rd floor provides paper and toner for our use. You can ask the work-study students at the main desk for paper and/or toner.
 - For printer problems - If the printer stops working
 - Contact Agatha ahultquist@gvpt.umd.edu or Brittany bbramlett@gvpt.umd.edu with information about the problem. We will then get in touch with Ann Marie and send out an email with updates.
- Next meeting – We are in the process of rescheduling the November GSA meeting, since the original date, Wednesday, November 11, conflicts with a job talk. We'll send information as soon as the time and date are confirmed.

Faculty Meeting Notes

- It was suggested at the faculty meeting on October 15th that some students on the job market schedule a practice job talk even without a job talk scheduled at an institution. This was encouraged because of possible scheduling conflicts with all of the department job search related meetings on the horizon. While not necessary for all students, Dr. Haufler suggested that some students might feel like they have a lot to benefit from the practice job talk experience and feedback.
- The university is in the process of updating its general education requirements (adding "I" courses), and our department is currently conducting and undergoing an internal and external review. These processes will likely mean different course offerings and student loads in the future. These were seen as positive, although hectic, changes.