

# GVPT NEWS

October, 2004

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### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

This issue of GVPT NEWS features our current and past Ph. Ds. While Professor Jan Hardt, Ph. D. 1993, updates us on her successful travels in academia, Tina Won Sherman describes her current mentorship experiences. To discover some clues to success, our new graduate students should read these columns. Our faculty who read the columns can take pride in our students.

Please use GVPT News to keep aware of developments in the department. I am sure that you will find that our columns on undergraduate affairs, graduate affairs, placement, and administrative issues are helpful and informative.

You can also use GVPT News to keep aware of the achievements of our faculty and graduate students. We publish information about their research, teaching, and service.

And please use GVPT News to keep aware of developments in our several centers. We publish center announcements and collate lectures, speakers, brown bags, and meetings on our Schedule of Department events.

Finally, Don't forget that George Quester will be holding his Distinguish Scholar-Teacher Lecture on Thursday, October 7 from 2-6pm in the Art-Sociology Building, Room 2203. He will speak on "What if the Nuclear Taboo Gets Broken." George is the latest of our DSTs, continuing a long and honorable departmental tradition. If your schedule permits, please attend his presentation.

Communities are aware of what their members are doing. Suggestions for GVPT NEWS are thus encouraged.



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

### **ALUMNI NEWS:**

#### **GVPT Alumni Tailgate**

The GVPT Alumni Council will host its annual tailgate on Sat., Oct. 16 before the Maryland/ NC State football game. The tailgate will be held two hours prior to kick-off in Lot 1 in front of Ludwig Soccer field. This event provides a fun and casual atmosphere for GVPT alumni to reconnect and cheer on the Terps. Please contact Beth Klein at [bklein@gvpt.umd.edu](mailto:bklein@gvpt.umd.edu) for more information or to RSVP.

### **UNDERGRADUATE NEWS:**

#### **PSA Welcome Event**

Pi Sigma Alpha Welcome Event was a success! The Political Science Honors society, PSA, has officially relaunched with its welcome event on September 27. Candidates were introduced to the organization and encouraged to run for the five open officer positions. Candidates who wish to run for any of the officer positions will have until October 6 to submit their application, and voting will take place by all members October 11-15. In addition to encouraging members to become a part of the chapter, candidates also talked about some of the ideas they had for the upcoming semester including a bipartisan debate and sponsored trip to tour the Supreme Court. PSA hopes to begin working closely the GVPT department to create worthwhile and exciting opportunities for all our undergraduates.

#### **Minority Identification Project**

The American Political Science Association has now put its Minority Identification Project (MID) online and available year round. This project works to identify talented undergraduate minorities interested in being recruited to doctoral programs in political science. Ultimately its

goal is to increase diversity in the political science profession. If you have a student who might be interested in becoming a part of this project and who wants to receive special information and financial aid offers from participating schools, please submit their name and email address to the undergraduate advisor, Jennifer Coarts, at [jcoarts@gvpt.umd.edu](mailto:jcoarts@gvpt.umd.edu). The student will then be contacted for further information.

### **BSOS Commencement Speaker for December 2004 Graduation**

Applications are now available for the December 2004 commencement speaker. Graduating seniors who have excelled during their time at Maryland are encouraged to apply for this honor. The applicant must have a 3.5 or better GPA and have completed at least 60 credits at the University of Maryland, College Park. Applications may be picked up from the Dean's Office, 2141 Tydings Hall, and returned to Beth Workman, Assistant to the Dean. The deadline for applications is October 25<sup>th</sup>. This honor has been given to many GPVT students in the past, so please encourage your students to apply.

### **Undergraduate Scholarship Opportunities – Academy of Leadership**

The following scholarships are being promoted by the Academy of Leadership and interested students must submit applications by 4:00p.m., Monday, October 11, 2004. For questions, please contact Dr. Nina Harris at (301) 405-0390 or at [nharris@academy.umd.edu](mailto:nharris@academy.umd.edu). For additional information or applications, please visit: <http://www.academy.umd.edu/education/scholarships/>

- The James MacGregor Burns Academy of Leadership will award two undergraduate scholarships this fall to honor the legacies of two leaders.
- The Meghan Price Scholarship for Public Leadership scholarship was created to honor the memory of Meghan Price by enabling students to carry on her legacy of leadership, dedication, and involvement.
- The Senator John A. Cade Scholarship for Public Leadership scholarship was created to honor the memory of Senator John A. Cade by enabling students to carry on his legacy of public service and leadership.

### **Undergraduate Scholarship Awareness Event**

The Scholarship Awareness Event will be held on Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> from 5-7 pm in the Visitors Center Auditorium. This event highlights opportunities for Maryland students to apply for national scholarships. Speakers include Eric Iversen, Outreach Manager for the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship; Tara Kneller, Director with the Harry S. Truman Foundation; Elizabeth Veatch, Program Director of the NSEP/Boren Graduate Fellowships; and Peter Frisbie, Program Manager for the NDSEG Fellowship Program. This event is open to faculty, staff, and students at all University System of Maryland teaching institution. Please RSVP by Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> to Dr. Camille Stillwell at 301-314-1289.

### **Mock Trial Team in GVPT**

The Department of Government and Politics is the new home for the four-time national championship University Mock Trial Team, under the direction of Professor Mark Graber. Coaches Milt Theologou and Aisha Henry promise another successful outing this year. Interested students should sign up in Spring04 under GVPT or BSOS 319.

Wayne McIntosh  
GVPT Undergraduate Director



**MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE STUDIES**

We have nearly completed the first round of our new examination procedure. If you still need to sit for your oral exam this fall, please try to schedule the exam in the very near future. If you are having difficulty scheduling your oral, please let me know.

If you are planning to take one or more comps in January and have not submitted your paperwork, please do so as soon as possible.

I am still looking for groups interested in developing one or more substantive pages for our department website that would highlight a prominent area of research within the department which crosses field and/or disciplinary boundaries. Our webmaster and I can help with the development of the pages, but we can't generate the necessary content. Please contact me if you have some ideas.

The Jean Elizabeth Spencer award committee (Geoff Layman, Frances Lee, and Irwin Morris) is still accepting nominations and self-nominations for the 2004 Jean Elizabeth Spencer Award. The award goes to an outstanding woman graduate student in Government and Politics, with "preference given to a candidate with the potential to make a contribution to the areas of state and/or local government or American politics." Nominees must be active graduate students either taking courses or working on their dissertations. Nominees should submit a brief letter outlining their interests and goals in political science, a resume, a short writing sample, and the names of at least two professors willing to serve as references. All materials should be submitted to Ann Marie Clark. The deadline for application is October 7, 2004.

Irwin Morris  
GVPT Graduate Director



**MESSAGE FROM THE PLACEMENT DIRECTOR**

**From the Placement Director: It Takes a Village....**

The new placement season has just begun, and this year we have more graduate students looking for academic jobs than there were last year. There are a total of ten people looking for academic positions for the first time, though a few of them are doing only very limited searches. There are about nine people who were on the job market in the past and got temporary jobs or post-doctoral fellowships, and are now looking for a tenure-track position. The policy of the department is to provide assistance to everyone until they obtain a tenure-track job.

I would like to make a plea to both students and faculty to work closely together in developing a competitive application packet and deciding where to apply. Students, you should

consult with your committee chair (and me) about such practical but important details as what is the most appropriate writing sample to include and what kind of institutions the best places for you to apply. You should also be proactive in soliciting letters of recommendation, and not be shy about asking different faculty to highlight different aspects of you as a scholar, teacher, and colleague. Faculty, especially chairs, should take the time to look at the application files of your own students and make suggestions for improvement.

In the coming months, I hope to be calling on everyone to participate in the practice job talks that our candidates will be giving. This is your opportunity to tell them what they can improve in presenting their research– from the organization of the talk, to the outfit they are wearing!

In September, the breakdown of job openings was as follows: there were 111 openings at the assistant professor level in international relations; 111 in comparative politics; 38 in political theory; and 112 in American politics. There also were 25 positions in international relations listed as "open," 37 in comparative politics, 8 in political theory, and 35 in American politics.

I want to thank Ann Marie Clark for all her hard work in trying to meet deadlines.

Virginia Haufler



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

GSA activities went into high gear last week with our first meeting of the school year. If you chose not to come, you may want to reconsider next time around – you missed not only great discussion but also delicious donuts and wholesome juice.

At the meeting many grad students expressed concern about the growing size of undergraduate sections, which have been increasing the burden on graduate teaching assistants as well as affecting the quality of instruction. Recognizing that this problem is not confined to the GVPT department, some GSA members stressed the need to support the university-wide graduate student union ([www.galol.org](http://www.galol.org)) which is in the process of seeking official recognition. We also discussed the new comprehensive exam system. The general sentiment was favorable. However, some students have had problems scheduling their oral exams – improvements are certainly needed in this area.

Our big project for this semester is revamping the GSA web site. So far, we have volunteers who are designing the web site and updating the graduate student handbook; other students are writing columns about the international student experience, GVPT social life, and academic concerns. We are also updating the bios – please send us your completed form if you have not already done so. If you have ideas about what needs to be part of our site, please get involved. It's important that we project to the outside world that our department is a challenging, yet fun place to get a PhD! Thanks to everyone who is already contributing.

Additionally, we are in the process of updating our GSA display case (which most of you have probably never noticed – that's how exciting it is right now). We plan to put up photos and names of all current grad students, similar to the Economics Department. We'll soon be asking

you to bring a photo (if you can't, we will come after you with a digital camera!) and please be thinking about what else you would like to see displayed.

Finally, GSA members are quite appalled at the state of the grad lab in Tydings. We are therefore hosting a **Cleaning Party next Friday October 1<sup>st</sup>, at 3:00**. All you need to bring is yourself and the will to help out – the GSA will provide cleaning products. After we've accomplished our task we will move the festivities to Happy Hour! This will hopefully be the first of installment of a new cleanly GVPT tradition.

We hope your semester is going well so far and we'll see you soon!

### **First Year Column**

As the newly-elected first year reps, Sam and I just wanted to let you know we are excited to represent the interests of first-year students to the department and the GSA. Please let one of us know if you have any questions or concerns that we can take to either body.

At the GSA meeting last week, we discussed ongoing attempts to unionize graduate students with GALOL, which is affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers. If you would like to join, please see one of us to get a card. Signing a support card does not require you to pay dues or attend union meetings. We look forward to working with you.

### **Shanthi and Sam**

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

Co-chairs: Jennifer Dabbs Sciubba, Jenny Wüstenberg  
 Admissions Committee: Liz Freund, Carter Johnson, Richard Longoria  
 Graduate Studies Committee: Shana Marshall, Loreene O'Neill, Lisa Wilson  
 Undergraduate Studies Committee: Mike Evans  
 Teaching Committee: Helit Barel  
 Graduate Student Government Rep: Philip Roessler  
 BSOS Council: Joanne Manrique  
 Social Chair: Jose Morales  
 Professional Development: Helmut Lutz  
 American Field Rep: Josh Dyck  
 Comparative Field Rep: Neha Saghal  
 IR Field Rep: Pelin Eralp  
 Political Economy Field Rep: Ken Cousins  
 Political Theory Field Co-Reps: Waseem El-Rayes, Greg Schwan  
 International Student Liason: Ginie Grzelczyk  
 First Year Reps: Shanthi Gonzales, Sam Fayyaz

Your GSA Co-Chairs,  
 Jennifer Dabbs Sciubba ([jdabbs@gvpt.umd.edu](mailto:jdabbs@gvpt.umd.edu))  
 Jenny Wustenberg ([jwustenberg@gvpt.umd.edu](mailto:jwustenberg@gvpt.umd.edu))



## **STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION**

### **POLICY REMINDERS AND CHANGES:**

1. If you are assigned a TA for your course, we require that you assign your TA (or TAs) to do the copying for your course. If you are not assigned a TA, the front office will copy coursework for you. Please give the front office 24 hour turnaround. Please remember that you have a copy code assigned to your course.

2. Bringing someone to campus? If you give Elizabeth 3 days notice, she can write Campus Parking and request a visitor pass for that person. This includes TV/Radio interviews. The Visitor Pass cost \$4.00. Please be sure to provide us the FRS account number to make the correct charges.

### **3. GIFT, COFFEE FUND and HOLIDAY RECEPTION**

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

a) 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

b) 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



c) For the **HOLIDAY RECEPTION**, it will be held on Friday December 10<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 pm. The reception this year will be a wine, cheese and dessert event which will not cost you any contribution. We picked this day because it is the only day of the week with fewer conflict between 2-4pm. Our goal was to have as many of you available as possible.

### **4. COPYING/PRINTING**

The department will continue to track copying 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 on copy codes, such as setting up a

new account, making changes to an account, or deleting an account. For financial concerns, please see Karen Bond.

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**.

## **5. 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 a better chance 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.

## **6. 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. New employees should come to the main office only once the payroll request form has been submitted.

## **7. DON'T FORGET YOUR BOXES**

Please don't forget to pick up boxes 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. Leaving these boxes unattended could cause someone to trip. Also, when going through the boxes looking for your packages, be careful not to pull them further out into the walk area.

## **8. COPY MACHINE JAMS**

The copy machine jammed again. This happens approximately 3 to 4 times a day and most of these jams can be fixed by yourself if you would just take a moment and get to know the machine. The copy machines are numbered inside easily and gives you clear messages as to where the jam is. We do not expect all you to become Xerox technicians but ask that you at least try to fix the jam before asking a student or staff worker to stop what they are doing to come and clear the jam.

## **9. FAVORS and OUT OF NORM JOBS**

If you have a special request such as an item to be picked up, a shredding job, a library delivery or pickup. Please do not ask the students do these jobs directly. Go to Beth Klein who will follow through on the special request.

## **10. WE DO NOT DO MAKE-UP EXAMS (Proctoring)**

The main office no longer proctors or oversees make-up exams. You will have to arrange a time for the student to come when the TA or yourself are available. Make-up exams will not be held in the GVPT Chairs Conference Room.

## 11. RETURNING STUDENT PAPERS

If you would like to return student papers, please ask them to provide you with a self addressed and stamped envelope. DO NOT arrange for the students to pick up papers in the main office. 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 Dissertation Phase: Getting the Most Out of the Mentoring Relationship with Your Advisor**

By Tina Won Sherman

As a recent graduate of the GVPT program, I can reflect with confidence on the factors that contributed to my successful completion of the dissertation phase of my degree. I would like to share the following tips with GVPTers who are about to embark upon their own dissertation. These tips include how to select and build a successful working relationship with your dissertation advisor or chair who is (hopefully) also one of your mentors.

As with all things in life, the usefulness of these tips will vary by person. However, I hope that at least a few of them will be useful to most of you.

- **Find a dissertation advisor with a genuine interest in your topic:** There is nothing more discouraging than devoting every waking hour to a dissertation topic only to find that your enthusiasm is not—even to some degree—shared by your advisor. It is hard to stay motivated when others around you do not show some level of genuine interest in your work. Make “interest” a key criterion when selecting a mentor. If you find someone who cares about your topic, not only will she be more invested in your work, but more importantly, so will you. It’s a win-win situation.
- **Find a dissertation advisor who wants you to succeed:** Each of us is our own biggest supporter and with something as important as writing the dissertation, our own biggest obstacle. Because much of the dissertation phase involves self-motivation, finding an advisor who can turn the negative into positive—the off-putting criticism into constructive feedback—is critical. An advisor can also provide you with the confidence needed to cross the finish line, or in this case, successfully defend your dissertation. For those times when you are sitting in front of your computer alone, uninspired, and certain that you will not succeed (and there will be plenty of those times), you will be able to take comfort in the knowledge that others believe you will. These are the thoughts that help you to regroup, refocus your efforts, and, as cheesy as it sounds, inspire you to work harder.
- **Establish timeframes and meet them:** I am sure that each of us would like to avoid spending decades in the dissertation phase. However, the process of successfully completing

the dissertation does take time. Reflect upon your research design and methodological approaches, and decide how long it will take for you to 1) research, write and defend the prospectus; 2) collect and analyze your data; and 3) synthesize the data, and write and defend the dissertation. Dividing the dissertation phase into three distinct parts with respective timeframes makes it seem more feasible. Continue to revisit your proposed timeframe with your advisor and discuss your progress. That way, you will be reminded of what is ahead and you can look favorably upon what you have accomplished thus far.

- **Set a schedule for regular meetings and stick to it:** One of the boons of being ABD is that you do not have to attend classes anymore and do not have your own homework to complete (okay, aside from grading the papers of undergrads). However, this absence of a fixed schedule takes some getting used to and easily lends itself to hours, days, weeks, and months that pass by with little progress on your dissertation (although you may be caught up on your daytime television). Constructing your own weekly deadlines that have consequences—such as meeting with your advisor and being embarrassed by her frustration that you have not made any progress since the previous meeting—encourages you to use your time during the week more efficiently and towards something tangible.
- **Set goals that are realistic and manageable:** If you decide to meet regularly with your advisor, set small goals for what you will accomplish before each meeting and meet those goals. It is a lot less daunting to write five pages in a week rather than an entire chapter, for example. Other goals include obtaining input on interview questions or determining who will be included in your survey sample. Find out if there are any administrative tasks you should be taking care of (e.g. filling out departmental and Graduate School forms, etc.) and any university deadlines about which you should be aware. This way, you will have a handle on them and they do not delay your dissertation progress in any way. Plus, seeing results—however small—is by itself a huge motivator.
- **Make the most of your meetings by exchanging the work beforehand:** You do not want to have your advisor spend a majority of your meeting time reading what you have written, leaving only a few minutes for discussion. Share with your advisor your progress in advance of your meeting by sending it to her via email. Anywhere from one to three days before the meeting is sufficient, depending on what is comfortable for you and your advisor. This affords the advisor the opportunity to digest what you have written and allows both of you the chance to dive into your meeting by actually discussing your progress. If your advisor is willing to provide you electronic comments on your work before you meet, even better, as this allows you to start formulating responses.
- **Be receptive to feedback:** No one likes to hear it, but most likely, your work can always be improved in some way. Remember, it's never going to be perfect...but hey, that's okay! Go into meetings with a mindset that feedback from your advisor will only strengthen your dissertation. The feedback may also help you reach your goal sooner, as your other committee members may likely share many of your advisor's comments. However, this does not mean that you should blindly accept all such comments. Ask for clarification on the comments about which you are uncertain, challenge the ones with which you disagree, and incorporate those that make sense. Feedback means you can spend less time bouncing your ideas off yourself without any input from others (a common pastime of ABDs). The more discussions with others, such as your advisor, the saner you will remain throughout this entire process.

Sincerest thanks to my dissertation advisor, Wayne McIntosh, and to my committee members, Peter Levine, Michael Gurevitch, Linda Williams, and Ernest Wilson, for serving as my mentors.

Best of luck to all and happy dissertating!



### ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF OUR PAST PH.D's

#### **My experience at the University of Maryland, College Park by Jan Hardt, a Ph.D. graduate in 1993, jhardt@ucok.edu**

My days at Maryland bring back very fond memories for me. I came to Maryland in 1988, having achieved my Masters degree in political science from the University of California, Davis. My decision to go to Maryland was an easy one. My research interests included the Congress and elections and thus I wanted to be close to Washington, D.C. Also, I had researched the top scholars in my area of interest (Roger Davidson, Eric Uslaner, Paul Herrnson, and many others) and they were at Maryland. Moreover, if I had stayed at my M.A. institution, my course work would have consisted mostly of directed readings, because I had already taken most of the courses as an M.A. student.

I came to Maryland knowing that I wanted to teach, and I was quickly excited to learn within days of my arrival that I would be given a teaching assistantship. This after all was why I had chosen to get my Ph.D. I wanted to teach at an institution that placed an emphasis on teaching, and I realized that I would need my Ph.D. to reach that goal. During my first year as a Teaching Assistant, I helped to assist one of the older Ph.D. candidates teach the large introductory American government class. From this experience, I learned several valuable lessons. First, I knew right then that I wanted to complete my Ph.D. in a timely manner. The five, eight, or ten-year writing process for a dissertation was not for me. Second, I also realized that I did not want to teach sections of 250-300 students in the future. I knew right then that I preferred the smaller class sizes because of the greater interaction with students. I think that it is truly important when you are in the early stages of your graduate program to figure out whether or not you want to teach, and if you do, what is the best institution for you.

Alas, during my second, third and fourth years, I was blessed by the opportunity at Maryland to teach my own individual classes. During my second year, I taught small sections of American National Government (I remember about 30-35 students in each class), and then later I was able to teach larger sections (about 70 students each) of the Introduction to Political Behavior course. This experience was absolutely priceless for me because it meant that when I was on the job market, I was not only a Maryland grad, but that I came with course “preps” already in hand.

I first entered the job market in 1993/1994, during the year I finished my dissertation (1993), and I found the perfect opportunity for me. Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania was looking for someone in American government to teach three courses per semester for one year, because their expert had written a \$500,000 federal grant and would be gone for one year. Gettysburg was my perfect match in three ways. First, I was able to commute between Gettysburg and Maryland so that I could finish my dissertation as quickly as possible. Second, Gettysburg gave me the chance to add more course “preps” under my belt. By the time I left Gettysburg, I had taught

classes in American Government, Interest Groups, Political Behavior, Media and Politics, Elections, and the U.S. Congress. Third, and no less important, I was able to make a “real” salary so that I could support my efforts to finish my dissertation.

My experiences at Gettysburg made it clear to me that I definitely wanted to teach, that I wanted to teach multiple courses, and that I wanted to teach at an institution with small class sizes. At Gettysburg, I had classes that ranged in size from 8 to 35. This experience taught me another lesson: don’t be afraid to take that first job, even if it is not exactly what you wanted. In this case, my first job was only for one year, but it gave me invaluable teaching experience, and because I had done a good job there, my contract was extended for a second year, so that I had the second year to devote to full-time teaching (i.e. no dissertation to work on!) and job searching. Another lesson I learned here is that it is much easier to find a job when you already have a job because you have both the additional experience and a proven track record.

My year on the job market in 1994/1995 was a stressful one, even though I had two advantages on my side. First, I had the full support of my Gettysburg colleagues in looking for my second job because they knew that their position was only for two years. I think that it would have been much more difficult if I had to find my next position without my current department’s support. Fortunately, I have never been placed in that precarious position.

Second, the University of Maryland made it much easier for me to find a job. The department did a fabulous job packaging my employment materials and making it as easy as possible to distribute them to as many schools as I needed. Maryland also made it possible for me to give a few job talks before I did it for “real” so that I would be truly prepared for the barrage of questions coming my way. Moreover, my professors at Maryland (especially Uslander and Herrnson) didn’t hesitate to point out jobs that might be of interest to me. This was important back then because the job search services at APSA were not nearly as advanced as they are today. The APSA personnel newsletter existed, but there were many, many jobs that were not advertised in that market. It turns out that two of my on-campus interviews, including my current job, came from jobs not advertised in the newsletter. It was only through my contacts at Maryland that I found out about those jobs, and for that I will always be grateful.

Alas, I would call my year on the job market also a successful one. Of my 65 initial applications, I landed 7 on-campus interviews, ranging anywhere from 1 day to 3 ½ days in length (yikes!). Those interviews yielded two job offers, including my current position at the University of Central Oklahoma. Having two job offers made me feel really fortunate because not only had I been told during some of my interviews that they had 250-350 applications for that job, but it also gave me a choice between locations, salary offers, and other necessary benefits.

This is now my tenth year at the University of Central Oklahoma. I came in with a tenure-tenure track position and received my tenure and promotion after my fifth year. Just last year, I was promoted again and was made full professor. The University of Central Oklahoma is truly a perfect fit for me. My institution has all the facilities of a large university (we have over 15,000 students), yet my average class size is 40 for American Government, 30 for my upper-division courses, and around 12 for my graduate-only classes. My colleagues are great and we have a nice-sized department of 12 full-time professors. I currently offer about 7 regular courses, so the course “preps” at Maryland and Gettysburg were very beneficial. I have been given the opportunity to serve UCO in a multitude of ways, including being a graduate advisor, a sponsor to Pi Sigma Alpha, and rewriting the faculty grievance procedures for our university while serving as chair. I have also been given the freedom to pursue my research interests, including

the only computerized database on Oklahoma campaign finance, which has led to several articles and book chapters. I also serve as a co-editor for *Oklahoma Politics*, the peer-reviewed journal for the Oklahoma Political Science Association.

Thus, I feel truly grateful, both to my professors and fellow students, because I went out on the job market well-prepared, with excellent skills, and with plenty of teaching experience. I am also grateful that I truly have found the perfect fit for me, and that's not easy these days.



## **WORKSHOPS and SEMINARS**

### **American Politics Workshop**

**October 8:** Chris Zorn, Emory University. "Institutional and Personal Influences on Federal Judicial Retirements, 1789-2002"

**October 22:** Wayne McIntosh and Mike Evans, "Only Words, or Data? Assessing the Relative Policy Positions in Supreme Court Briefs and Opinions."

**November 5:** Election 2004 Post-Mortem.

**November 12:** Doug Grob, "Political Context and Electoral Insulation."

**November 19:** Geoff Layman, Tom Carsey, John Green, and Rick Herrera, "Party Polarization and 'Conflict Extension' among American Party Activists: National Convention Delegates from 1972-2000"

**December 3:** Liz Freund: "Presidential Success in Foreign and Domestic Policy Areas."

**December 10:** Christian Davenport and Mark Lichbach: "Blacks, Jews and the Ocean Hill/Brownsville Conflict."

### **CIDCM Speaker Series**

Schedule for CIDCM Seminar Series 2004-2005, Fall Series, Wednesdays, 11:30-1pm, unless otherwise noted. Light lunch served.

**October 14 (Thursday), 11:30 am -1:00 pm** - "Perspectives from Pakistan: A Unique Nation Facing Novel Challenges"

General Shujaat Hussain and Javed Jabar, Institute for International Peace and Conflict Resolution

National University of Science and Technology (NUST), Pakistan

**October 27** - Title TBA

Dorothee Heisenberg , School of Advanced International Studies, The Johns Hopkins University

**November 3** - Title TBA

Marc Morjé Howard, Department of Government, Georgetown University and

Philip Roessler, Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland.

**December 1** - Title TBA

Scott Kastner, Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland

### **DC Area Workshop on Contentious Politics**

We invite submissions for this semester's workshop on contentious politics: repression, human rights violation, genocide, protest, civil war, terrorism, strikes, everyday resistance and interstate conflict. The project webpage can be found at:

<http://www.bsos.umd.edu/gvpt/davenport/dcawcp/index.htm>. In 2001, Scholars at the University of Maryland, in conjunction with other institutions in the surrounding area, initiated an informal workshop for the study of contentious politics. We are excited to begin our third year.

Directly borrowing from a similar workshop at Columbia University, organized by Charles Tilly, the objectives and format of the workshop are rather straightforward:

#### **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 the:**

University of Maryland - College Park  
1111 Tydings Hall  
Phone: 301-314-9473  
Wednesdays, 9:30am - 11:00am

To facilitate greater access and participation of all members, some sessions will be held at affiliate institutions (George Mason University, 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 [cgsafecomm@aol.com](mailto:cdsafecomm@aol.com). You will be informed of the selection committee's decision (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 15th and then take place on the following dates: September 29th, October 13th, October 27th, November 3rd, November 10th, November 17th, December 1st and December 8th.

### Political Theory Field Talks

Beginning with this semester, we, as political theory/philosophy field graduate students, will be holding informal talks to be given by political theory faculty from our department. The topics of these talks will be drawn from new courses taught by the faculty or their book/article projects just finished or still in process. They are intended as informal occasions and are open to all who are interested in political theory/philosophy. They will be held regularly once or twice a semester. This semester's talks will be given by Prof. Fred Alford and Prof. Charles Butterworth. Below is a brief description of their talks:

I'm going to be talking about the research and thinking behind my forthcoming book, "Rethinking Freedom: Why Freedom Has Lost Its Meaning and What Can Be Done To Save It" (New York and London: Palgrave Macmillan). The research involved hour-long interviews with 52 people about freedom. About two-thirds were younger than thirty, for it was among younger informants that I found the most intriguing answer: "I've got all the freedom I need; I don't need any more freedom. I need power and control over my own life." Generally this meant more money. What, I wondered, are the implications of this view of freedom for the way freedom is generally seen by political theorists, for it is a view that doesn't fit the usual categories, such as positive or negative freedom? Is it possible these young people know something important, something that famous political theorists have forgotten?

C. Fred Alford

Law and Custom, the case of Montesquieu: For most observers, constitutionalism and the rule of law are key features of the American regime, whether it is called a democracy or a federal republic. This semester in GVPT 848A/FREN 679, following up on hints in Tocqueville's Democracy in America, we are reading authors who speak to such matters.

Montesquieu is especially important because of the way he focuses on laws in general as well as on the things that contribute to the formation of laws. So, too, is Benjamin Constant because of his reflections on the limits one must place on government. Blaise Pascal prompts us to think beyond the immediate context of day to day life. None of these authors is to be found on the reading list that serves as a guide to the comprehensive examination in political philosophy/theory, but each one is important in his own right.

Of special interest is Montesquieu and his contribution to our understanding of law and rule of law, mainly because he is best known to us generally.

Charles Butterworth

The time and places of these two talks are TBA.



## **CENTER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

#### **Grants**

CAPC has received a \$25,000 grant from the U.S. Election Assistance Commission's "Help America Vote College Program." CAPC will partner with the Prince George's County Board of Elections in a pilot program to recruit college students to fill election judge vacancies in the November 2 General Election. CAPC seeks to determine which recruitment methods work best to enlist college students as election judges and to determine which training methods are most effective to teach college students to be election judges. GVPT undergrad and graduate students may earn up to \$175 for service as an election judge through this program.

#### **Lectures and Presentations**

Paul Herrnson participated in a workshop sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) to develop a research agenda related to electronic voting technologies. The conference was funded by the National Science Foundation. AAAS plans to issue a report on the workshop's findings and recommendations before the November 2 national election.

Randy Roberson spoke about "Voting in America" to the Kiwanis Club of Leisure World on September 17.

#### **Other News**

CAPC Executive Board Chairman and former U.S. Senator Joseph D. Tydings will be the Grand Marshal of the University of Maryland's 2004 Homecoming Parade on Friday, October 15.

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

#### **2005 Winter Program**

Multi-Track Diplomacy and Conflict Transformation  
Searching for Common Ground

University of Maryland at College Park  
January 4 - January 23, 2005

CIDCM is offering an intensive evening and weekend program in the field of appropriate dispute resolution (ADR), to provide experiential learning and multiple perspectives on ways to bring about conflict transformation and peace-building. The aim is to develop the knowledge and professional skills necessary to facilitate the resolution of protracted ethnic, nationalist, religious or other complex societal conflicts, as well as conflicts over borders, water or other common-pool resources, using primarily the techniques of “second track” or citizens’ diplomacy. These techniques, exemplified in CIDCM's Innovative Problem-Solving Workshops, provide an essential complement to official, or “first track,” diplomacy especially for conflicts involving non-state communities.

The Winter Program, directed by Dr. John Davies and Dr. Edy Kaufman, gives both theoretical and experiential bases for application of these methodologies, bringing to participants the cumulative experience of researchers and scholar-practitioners at CIDCM working with Partners in Conflict, Partners in Peacebuilding and related projects around the world.

#### Potential Participants

Potential participants include: diplomats (especially from developing countries), foreign service and other U.S. and foreign professionals; staff and volunteers in government agencies and non-governmental organizations working in the fields of peace-building, peace-keeping, conflict resolution, humanitarian aid and development; graduate and upper-level undergraduate students from the University of Maryland system and other universities.

#### Further Information

For more information on any aspect of the Winter Program on Multi-Track Diplomacy and Conflict Transformation, please see <http://www.cidcm.umd.edu/announcement.asp?id=36>.

## The Democracy Collaborative

### Community Tour of Prince George’s County

The Engaged University Initiative of The Democracy Collaborative and the Office of Resident Life are co-sponsoring a one-day tour of Prince George's County for students, staff, and faculty on October 28, 2004. We particularly encourage new members of the university community to attend – but all are welcome.

Meet people, discover places, and explore fresh perspectives in the county in which our institution is situated. Learn about the assets and challenges of the county and understand more deeply its political, economic, and cultural context. Develop opportunities for university/community collaboration. A follow-up dialogue will take place on Oct. 29th. For more information or to reserve your place, contact Marie Troppe at: [mtroppe@democracycollaborative.org](mailto:mtroppe@democracycollaborative.org)

### Parent Leadership Workshops

The active involvement of parents and community in the public schools is a major factor in achieving student success and quality education. Over the course of the past year, The Democracy Collaborative surveyed the literature and researched models of how to increase parent/community involvement in schools, and visited sites where “best practices” were being

implemented. Building upon that research, in September 2004 we initiated our first eight session workshop for parents of children at Langely Park-McCormick Elementary School in Prince George's County. The workshop, which is conducted in Spanish, is designed to educate parents about the school system and how to become an effective advocate for quality education. Specific sessions will focus on:

- The "Right Question" Project
- Understanding the U.S. Schooling System
- Parents' Rights and Responsibilities Under No Child Left Behind
- Parents as Teachers
- Understanding Special Education and English as a Second Language (ESOL)
- Story Time
- Understanding the Student Report Card
- Computer Literacy

## **The Role of Youth and Universities in Mobilizing Social Movements**

The Democracy Collaborative will offer a regular bi-weekly seminar series on "The Role of Youth and Universities in Mobilizing Social Movements" that will bring to the University of Maryland campus 8-10 speakers during the 2004-05 academic year. The Social Movements seminar is slated to begin by the end of October, with seminars tentatively scheduled for brown-bag seminars on Tuesdays from 12:00 noon-2:00pm. The seminar series will involve faculty, graduate students, and activists and practitioners from the broader Washington D.C. metropolitan area who have participated and/or are familiar with the various social movements covered in the series. For more information, contact Jim Riker at: [jriker@democracycollaborative.org](mailto:jriker@democracycollaborative.org)

### **Hold that Date: Civil Society Lecture, December 7, 2004**

Dr. David Maurrasse, a national expert on "the engaged university," will deliver the fall Civil Society Lecture on December 7 in the Prince George's Room of the Student Union. The lecture will begin at 4 p.m., followed by a reception.

Dr. Maurrasse is an Assistant Professor in the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University. At Columbia, he founded the Center for Innovation in Social Responsibility, which promote research and dialogue toward more effective partnerships between major institutions/industries and communities. The Center produced the recently published book, *A Future for Everyone*, which addresses social responsibility and community partnerships among various major institutions and industries. He is also the author of *Beyond the Campus: How Colleges and Universities form Partnerships with their Communities*. He is working on a new book, *Listening to Harlem: Gentrification, Community, and Business*, which assesses the potentials and pitfalls of various approaches to urban economic development.

### **Gar Alperovitz to Speak at Politics & Prose, October 24**

Gar Alperovitz, a founding Principal of The Democracy Collaborative, will speak at the Washington, D.C. bookstore, Politics & Prose, on the occasion of the publication of his new book, "America Beyond Capitalism: Reclaiming Our Wealth, Our Liberty, and Our Democracy" (Wiley). The event will begin at 5 p.m. Politics & Prose is located at 5015 Connecticut Ave., NW. For more information on Gar's forthcoming book, go to: [www.americabeyondcapitalism.com](http://www.americabeyondcapitalism.com)

## **The Harrison Program**

The next installment of the Harrison Program's series of doctoral student research presentations in international studies will be October 11 at 11:00. Helmut Lotz will present a chapter from his dissertation (talk title and location TBA). We also have a talk set for November in this monthly series, but December is still up for grabs. If you are interested in making a presentation about work in progress, contact Ken Conca.

The joint Harrison Program-CIDCM initiative on environmental peacemaking is currently planning its next event, a daylong workshop on environmental challenges and opportunities in post-conflict societies. If you are interested in getting involved with the planning of this event, contact Ken Conca at [kconca@gvpt.umd.edu](mailto:kconca@gvpt.umd.edu) or Christos Kyrou at [ckyrou@cidcm.umd.edu](mailto:ckyrou@cidcm.umd.edu)



## **FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS**

### **Books out or in press**

**Vladimir Tismaneanu's** "The Great Shock at the End of a Short Century: Ion Iliescu in Dialogue with Vladimir Tismaneanu. On Communism, Post-Communism, and Democracy", translated from Romanian, Social Science Monographs, distributed by Columbia University Press. The book was launched in the presence of Romania's President, Mr. Ion Iliescu and Professor Tismaneanu in Chicago, under the sponsorship of Romania's General Consulate on September 19, 2004. On December 22, in the presence of Columbia University's President, Lee Bollinger, and President Iliescu, the book was launched at Columbia University.

### **Articles or Chapters in Print**

**Gar Alperovitz's** America Beyond Capitalism: Reclaiming Our Wealth, Our Liberty and Our Democracy, will be published by John Wiley & Sons on October 29th.

**Charles E. Butterworth**, "Prisoner of Conscience: The Story of Dr. Sami al-Arian," Preface to Shackled Dream, A Palestinian's Struggle for Truth, Justice, and the American Way: The Story of Sami A. al-Arian (Washington, DC: National Liberty Fund, 2004), xv-xx. Also his article "To Attend or Not to Attend," in CTE, Teaching & Learning News, Special Issue: Closing the Gap Between Students' and Teachers' Expectations, 13/4 (April/May, 2004), p. 4. Charles' review of Muhammad ibn Zafar al-Siqilli, The Just Prince, A Manual of Leadership, including an authoritative English translation of the Sulwan al-Muta' fi 'Udwan al-Atba' (Consolation for the Ruler During the Hostility of Subjects), trans. Joseph A. Kechichian and R. Hrair Dekmejian, in The Middle East Journal, 58/2 (Spring, 2004), 323-324. And finally, Charles' review of Sami Zubaida, Law and Power in the Islamic World, in Choice, 41/8 (April, 2004), 4947.

**Shibley Telhami**, Liberty and Power: A Dialogue on Religion and US Foreign Policy in an Unjust World (co-author), Brookings Institution Press, forthcoming, October 2004

**Vladimir Tismaneanu** has continued to write his weekly column for one of Romania's major newspapers the "National Journal." He has also contributed political analyses to Radio Free Europe, Voice of America, and Romanian National Radio.

**Ric Uslaner's** "Honesty, Trust, and Legal Norms in the Transition to Democracy: Why Bo Rothstein Is Better Able to Explain Sweden than Romania," (with Gabriel Badescu) in Janos Kornai, Susan Rose-Ackerman, and Bo Rothstein, eds., Creating Social Trust: Problems of Post-Socialist Transition (New York: Palgrave, 2004), pp. 31-52. His "Social Capital and the Net," Proceedings of the ACM (Association for Computing Machinery), in Verna V. Gehring, ed., The Internet and Public Life (Lanham, MD: Rowman Littlefield, 2004), pp. 101-112. Also Ric's "Trust Online, Trust Offline," editorial column for Proceedings of the ACM, 47, no. 4 (April, 2004), 28. And his "Trust, Civic Engagement, and the Internet," Political Communication, 21 (April-June, 2004), pp. 223-242.

### Grants and Awards

**Jillian Schwedler** has received a grant from the Fulbright Foundation to hold a 4-day international workshop at the University of Maryland next April on the topic, "Rethinking the Field of Conflict Studies." Interested students and faculty will be invited to participate; additional information will follow in the coming months.

**Ric Uslaner** was named to editorial board of European Political Science and Social Science Quarterly.

### Lectures and Presentations

**Paul Herrnson** participated in a workshop sponsored by the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) to develop a research agenda related to electronic voting technologies. The conference was funded by the National Science Foundation. AAAS plans to issue a report on the workshop's findings and recommendations before the November 2 national election.

**Scott Kastner's** "International conflict, domestic interests and institutions, and trade" paper was presented at APSA.

**George Quester** - Distinguish Scholar - Teacher Lecture, Thursday, October 7 from 2-6PM in 2203 Art-Sociology Building. "What if the Nuclear Taboo Gets Broken"

**Shibley Telhami's** Will deliver the keynote speech at a conference on "The Media and Political Change in the Arab World," organized by the Cambridge Arab Media Project (CAMP) and the Centre of Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies (CMEIS), Cambridge University, United Kingdom, September 28, 2004. He spoke at a panel on "Arab Economic Development and Democracy," at the Foreign Policy Association in New York, September 22, 2004. Shibley hosted and spoke at panel on "Three years after the 9/11 tragedy: attitudes toward the US globally" University of Maryland, September 20, 2004 and spoke at town hall on "How Our Generation Can Begin to Heal the U.S.- Arab World Divide." arranged by Americans for Informed Democracy, University of Maryland, September 14, 2004. Shibley also spoke on a panel, "The Iraq War's consequences on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict" at the National Council on US-Arab Relations, September 13, 2004 and gave a keynote talk at University of Denver conference on "How to Rebuild Trust", September 3, 2004. Finally, Shibley gave an introduction to Professor Akbar Ahmed at his talk on his books Resistance and Control in Pakistan and Postmodernism and Islam. Politics and Prose bookstore, September 1, 2004

**Vladimir Tismaneanu** participated in the international conference "Europe: A Beautiful Idea?" organized in Warsaw by the Amsterdam-based Nexus Institute between September 3-October 4.

**Ric Uslaner** was an invited speaker, The Asia Society, Washington, DC on the 2004 elections, September 29, 2004.

## Real World Research Involvement

1) **Christian Davenport** - in April, my genodynamics project ([www.genodynamics.com](http://www.genodynamics.com)) - housed under the radical information project, got into something of a media controversy after it released some of its findings. the correspondence associated with this is provided at the following url: <http://www.bsos.umd.edu/gvpt/davenport/genodynamics/media.htm>. the outcome was dramatic: the president of rwanda's office suggested that my study and those working on it should be treated with contempt (some other communication was a bit less gentle), we received everything from hate mail to praise, and the project was hired by the prosecution as well as the defense for the international criminal tribunal on Rwanda in Arusha, Tanzania as both consultants and expert witnesses. Why all the fuss? Our research shows that the Rwandan genocide (which refers to ethnic targeting exclusively) is better characterized as a genocide and a politicide (the latter of which refers to politically-motivated targeting). This is controversial for two primary reasons. First, the law regarding genocide is clear and severe whereas the law regarding politicide is not. second, the legitimacy of the current Rwandan government is largely based on the claim that they stopped genocide, saving their people (Tutsi), and not that they eliminated a totalitarian regime that was killing both Tutsi and majority Hutu - in roughly equal amounts. a third controversial point is that our research also identifies that the current regime may have also engaged in large amounts of killing during the period attributed to the aforementioned genocide as well as after it (both within Rwanda and in the Congo). unfortunately, the mandate for the international criminal tribunal on Rwanda precludes them from pursuing those guilty of crimes after the 100-day period of interest. The International criminal court (the icc), however, is not precluded from this activity and we have been informed that our research will likely be used there as well.

Davenport is also i am also working with an organization called Navsarjan trust in Gujarat India. This organization has been combating the practice of untouchability through direct action. Additionally, they have been compiling information on untouchability as well as resistance in 3000 villages for approximately 25 years. They are now at a point where they have too much information and they can not assess patterns in untouchability or the effectiveness of their activities in eliminating these practices. my radical information project has been brought in to assist with data collection, analysis and research design as they prepare to assess their condition and move into another 3000 villages over the next 3 years.

2) **Ric Uslaner** was an invited speaker, panel on "Legislative Civility: Can It Survive Polarized Voters and Contentious Politics?" at the Western Committee on the Future of Western Legislatures held on September 26 in conjunction with the Council of State Governments/CSG-WEST Annual Meeting, Anchorage, Alaska. This panel is designed to propose solutions to the problem of incivility in state legislators.

3) **Ronald Walters** has been notified frequently in the past that my book: African American Leadership (SUNY Press) is utilized in a number of leadership training situations by various organizations. Also, the African American Leadership is in a constant research providing, service and consultative relationship with a range of African American leadership organizations, through my formal board memberships, participation in their conferences as a speaker, fulfilling informal requests for information, and contribution of articles to their publications such as, The National Urban League's "State of BLack America," NAACP's "Crisis," "Black Issues In Higher Education" and others.

4) **Ernest J. Wilson III** is undertaking research applied to and valued by the

local, national and international communities. Wilson is researching the social and institutional causes and origins of the diffusion of information and communications technologies like the Internet, especially cross sector leadership and cooperation. This research is being conducted in the Maryland-Washington-Virginia area, and is being shared with key public, private and educational institutions like the Washington Board of Trade, the Case Foundation, and other groups in the region.

At the global level, the World Bank has used Wilson's approach - 'leadership in a networked world' - in their major conferences and field programs, as has the Economic Commission for Africa. Wilson has spoken on his research to senior government officials in Brazil, China and other nations.

Nationally, Wilson's research on the digital divide and other technology issues have been cited and drawn upon by agencies like the National Research Council, the Internet Policy Institute, the National Urban League.

He works also with the Congressional Black Caucus, the United Negro College Fund, and serves on the Board of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting."

## **DEMOCRACY COLLABORATIVE SUBMISSION TO BSOS SURVEY OF APPLIED RESEARCH**

### **Increasing Civic Engagement**

The Democracy Collaborative was commissioned by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation to conduct a national-level assessment of what works to enhance civic participation at the community level in the United States. The project involved a comprehensive review of over 700 scholarly articles by 14 scholars from 6 universities. The research has been **used by the Foundation to equip its program officers and community liaison officers with recommendations and ideas for enhancing civic engagement in the 26 metropolitan areas where the Foundation targets its funding.**

### **Expanding Support for Asset-Based Community Building**

Professor Gar Alperovitz was commissioned by the Annie E. Casey Foundation to develop a Working Paper on strategies to simultaneously anchor jobs in local communities and promote community-based economic development. The paper, "An Asset-Based Community-Building Paradigm for Twenty-First Century Development," builds upon community-building economic work of The Democracy Collaborative, and is **now being used by the Casey Foundation and other foundations to help focus their giving in ways that build greater public support for such activities.**

### **Increasing Parent Involvement in the Public Schools**

The active involvement of parents and community in the public schools is a major factor in achieving student success and quality education. Over the course of a year, The Democracy

Collaborative surveyed the literature and researched models of how to increase parent/community involvement in schools, and visited sites where “best practices” were being implemented. **Building upon that research, in September 2004 we initiated our first eight session workshop for parents of children at Langely Park-McCormick Elementary School in Prince George’s County.** The workshop, which is conducted in Spanish, is designed to educate parents about the school system and how to become an effective advocate for quality education.

### **Enhancing Life Options for Youth**

Central to the “Engaged University” activities of The Democracy Collaborative is an ongoing action research agenda for exploring and enhancing life options for youth in Prince George’s County. In partnership with the Center for Information & Research on Civic Learning and Engagement (CIRCLE), **The Democracy Collaborative has been working over the past two years with students at Northwestern High School to develop their civic awareness and engagement through researching and documenting community history and assets.** Through this project, students have worked with UMD faculty and graduate students to build a website, [www.princegeorges.org](http://www.princegeorges.org); document businesses and community resources in communities near their school; research the history of desegregation in Prince George’s County and conduct oral histories of key activists in efforts to integrate their own high school; gather information about healthy living, including identifying restaurants and groceries with “healthy menus”; and learn ways teens can avoid involvement in the criminal justice system.



## **GRADUATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS**

### **Lectures and Presentations**

**Diana Boros** paper, "The Culture of Hungarian Healthcare Reform" has been accepted to be presented at a conference titled: "Between Core and Periphery: Towards a New Understanding of CEE," to be held at the Graduate School of Social Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, on November 15-19, 2004.



**SCHEDULE**

**OCTOBER 2004**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6 Executive Com. Mtg. 11-12:15, GVPT Conf. Rm.	7	8 American Politics Wrkshp 1136 -10:30-12	9
10	11	12	13 DC Area Contentious Politics Wrkshp 9:30-11, TYD 1111	14	15 American Politics Wrkshp 1136 -10:30-12	16
17	18	19	20 Executive Com. Mtg. 11-12:15, GVPT Conf. Rm.	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 DC Area Contentious Politics Wrkshp 9:30-11, TYD 1111	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.