

# POLITICAL SCIENCE

NEWS & VIEWS

## Chair's remarks

JAMAL NASSAR

The Department of Politics and Government is proud to present you with this new and enhanced newsletter. Not only is our newsletter new and enhanced, but we now have a totally renewed quarters in Schroeder Hall. I hope each and every one of you can come back to see our remodeled building. We continue to move forward and be one of the most innovative programs on campus and in the state.

Next fall, an American Bar Association's team will be on campus to accredit our legal studies minor. Once that is complete, we plan to look into developing a new major in legal studies alongside our political science major. A special task force is already in place looking into the possibility of offering a Ph.D. in global politics. A new sequence in leadership and social justice is now a reality along with our sequences in public service and global studies. Our pre-law concentration continues to be strong. The work of the Attorneys Advisory Council is contributing to making our legal studies program the best anywhere in the state of Illinois. Our alumni are equally impressive. One of them, Judge Michael P. McCuskey, was recently named by the governor to join the Illinois State University Board of Trustees chaired by another of our alums, Carl E. Kasten.

I hope you will enjoy reading this newsletter and learning about the progress of the department. You will discover that this department continues to innovate and refuses to vegetate.

## Illinois State University was a home run for Judge Michael McCuskey '70

BY ELAINE GRAYBILL

Michael McCuskey is a left-handed pitcher whom Coach Duffy Bass recruited in 1966 to play baseball for Illinois State University. While a sore arm ended his pitching career, McCuskey was a member of the Redbird 1969 NCAA College Division National Championship baseball team.

Nearly 40 years after Bass recruited him, McCuskey is still on the team. Now it is as a newly appointed member of the Illinois State University Board of Trustees, appointed by Governor Rod Blagojevich in September 2005.

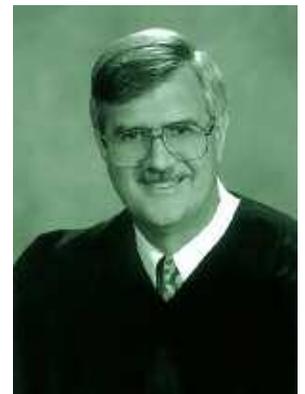
"My coming to the board of trustees is a natural evolution of my service to the University," McCuskey said. Through the decades McCuskey has served on many Illinois State University committees, from the Attorneys Advisory Council to the Alumni Association Board. He has maintained season tickets for men's basketball and estimates he has attended 400 games since he graduated. In 2003, Illinois State awarded him an honorary Doctor of Laws degree.

Another part of McCuskey's evolution was from a member of the first class to graduate from the Political Science Department to chief U.S. District Court judge for the Central District of Illinois, based in Urbana. President Bill Clinton nominated him to the U.S. District Court in 1997, and he was confirmed in 1998. He began a seven-year term as chief judge in December 2004.

In a way McCuskey is still pitching, but now he is pitching the University and the difference it has made in his life. He said he loves the opportunity to give a speech and tell the story of what Illinois State University means to him.

"One of the most significant events of my life took place when my parents and I stood in front of Horton Field House in 1966 after a recruiting session with Duffy Bass," he said. Bass '50, M.S.E. '51, was the Illinois State head baseball coach from 1963 to 1988. McCuskey was a high school senior in a class of 16 in the Marshall County town of Sparland. He had never traveled outside the state. He had applied to only one school, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (U of I), and been promised an academic scholarship there. He believed attending the U of I would help him get into law school, which was the path he saw to the life he wanted in politics, government, and law.

Standing in front of Horton, his parents asked him, "What do you want to do?" He



Continued on next page

## National organization recognizes outstanding professors

At the annual American Political Science Association convention held in August–September 2005, the Department of Politics and Government faculty received more awards and accolades than any other university. These faculty were honored at a reception honoring outstanding teaching and were awarded a certificate as well as having their accomplishments noted in the October 2005 edition of *PS*.

- Nancy Lind was recognized as a CASE (Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement and Support of Education) Professor of the Year finalist, an award selected by a faculty committee from among all faculty who have won campus-wide teaching awards.



Nancy Lind

- Manfred Steger was recognized for a Campus-Wide Teaching Award selected by students throughout the University.
- David Weiden (pictured on page 3) was recognized for an Outstanding Teacher Award given to a faculty member who demonstrates excellence in teaching.
- T.Y. Wang was recognized for his receipt of the Hibbert R. Roberts Teaching Excellence Award based on superior teaching performance decided by faculty colleagues reviewing course materials.



T.Y. Wang

- Bernard Tamas was recognized for receiving the Pi Sigma Alpha Teaching Excellence Award selected by student majors voting for their favorite professor.



Bernard Tamas

answered that he thought he would go to the U of I because it would be good for his future. “We think you should go to Illinois State,” they told him. “Coach Bass is the kind of person you should associate yourself with.” He reminded his parents that there was no scholarship at Illinois State University, and they said they were investing in his future. They said, “Coach Bass, we feel, is the kind of person who will take care of you for the rest of your life.”

“They were absolutely right,” McCuskey said. “The decision to go to Illinois State profoundly affected my life.” His parents are gone now, he said, but he and Bass are close personally. He said Bass has attended every important event in his life, and they sit together at basketball games.

“There was a second phase to the decision,” McCuskey said, and that’s where the Political Science Department comes in. Before agreeing to attend Illinois State, McCuskey contacted Bass and told him his goal was to attend law school. Bass took him to Schroeder Hall to meet Professor Alice Ebel. She told him a political science department would be starting that fall, that she wanted him to be a member of the first class to graduate from it, and that it would prepare him for a law career. “She was absolutely right,” McCuskey said.

“Between Coach Bass and Alice Ebel I received the personal touch that really made the difference in my life,” McCuskey said. “Ebel became a mentor during my eight semesters at Illinois State. She would write my parents a letter every semester telling them about my progress and what I was doing.” Ebel wrote those letters for all the political science majors, he said. McCuskey also remained close to Ebel, who is now deceased.

McCuskey’s grandmother had been a teacher, but, because of the Great Depression, no one in his parents’ generation was able to graduate from college. So teaching was held in high esteem in his family, and after he graduated from Illinois State he became a history teacher and baseball coach at Ottawa Township High School in Illinois for two years before enrolling at St. Louis University School of Law.

Law degree in hand, he returned to Marshall County, where he was partner in a Lacon law firm until 1988, when he was elected circuit judge of the 10th Judicial Circuit and assigned to felony court in Peoria. In 1990, he was elected judge for the Third District Appellate Court, where he served until he was sworn in as a U.S. District judge in 1998.

McCuskey, who lives in Urbana with his wife, Brenda Huber McCuskey ’87, and 11-year-old son, Ryan, has an active life in addition to being a judge. Next year he will chair the Civil Practice Section Council of the Illinois State Bar Association. He is very involved in the Urbana Rotary Club and recently, through Rotary, hosted a delegation of Russian judges. He loves watching men’s college basketball and holds season tickets to Illinois State and the University of Illinois, noting during the interview that he would be attending four games in the next five days. He has had a great year as a White Sox fan and attended all the playoff and World Series games that took place in Chicago.

McCuskey believes his parents would be pleased with his life. “They would be happy to see how their decision has turned out,” he said. “I have been able to live most of the dreams, and that is all because of Illinois State University.”

## Leadership team in place

The Department of Politics and Government has been able to advance its programs so successfully because of the shared leadership of Jamal Nassar, department chair, and Nancy Lind, associate department chair. Two years ago Nassar recognized the increasing workload of administration and the necessity of creating new programs of excellence as well as updating current programs. He asked Lind to join him in the administrative ranks as associate chair. Lind and Nassar have created a partnership that benefits the students and moves the department forward.



## Hibbert R. Roberts Lecture

Christopher Hitchens, author and journalist, presented the annual Hibbert R. Roberts Lecture this year at Braden Auditorium. His topic, "Are We at War with Terrorism?," generated serious debate and discussions among students and faculty. Hitchens is the author of dozens of books including *The Trial of Henry Kissinger* and *Thomas Jefferson: Author of America*. Hitchens is a regular contributor to *Vanity Fair* and worked for many years for *The Nation*. For a long time, Hitchens was viewed to be on the left in the American political spectrum. His support of the Bush Administration's wars on Afghanistan and Iraq has reversed that image. He regularly appears on news shows and other talk shows.

## Tom Eimermann Pre-Law Center naming ceremony

On Saturday, April 16, Illinois State University held a formal naming ceremony celebrating the generous gift of David Crumbaugh, an attorney with Latham and Watkins in Chicago, to fully equip and name the pre-law center after Tom Eimermann, Crumbaugh's pre-law advisor when he was a student at Illinois State in the early 1970s. Dean Olson, President Bowman, Patrick Cotter (chair of the Attorneys Advisory Council), Jamal Nassar (chair of the Department of Politics and Government), and Robert Bradley (pre-law advisor) all spoke about the significance of the gift for pre-law students, and the source of the inspiration for the gift—Tom Eimermann. "Illinois State is fortunate to have had Eimermann on the faculty, and now his name will forever be associated with the program he helped create," said Dean Olson. "We are also here to honor David Crumbaugh, who made our dream to have a state-of-the-art pre-law center—the best pre-law center in the state of Illinois, if not the nation—a reality through his generous gift. David's gift means much to the students who utilize this center on a daily basis."



From left, Jamal Nassar, Tom Eimermann, David Crumbaugh, President Al Bowman, and Pat Cotter

## New faculty profile: David Weiden



David Weiden joins the Department of Politics and Government as an assistant professor. Before coming to Illinois State, he served as the assistant director of the Docking Institute of Public Affairs and on the faculty of Fort Hays State University, the U.S. Naval Academy, and the University of Denver. With a background as an attorney and a social scientist, Weiden's research interests include the U.S. Supreme Court, comparative judicial systems, and criminal justice policy. Weiden earned his J.D. from the University of Denver College of Law and is completing his Ph.D.

at the University of Texas at Austin.

## New staff profile: Cherie Valentine

Cherie Valentine has joined the Department of Politics and Government as lead staff secretary replacing Sherry Stephens. Cherie Valentine comes to us from the Department of History, where she worked in the History Education Office. Valentine, however, is better known throughout campus for her involvement in the circus: She was a performing trapeze artist as a young girl—she and her parents were "The Flying Valentinos." She remains a strong friend of circus animals and domestic animals alike, hosting several of her own cats and dogs in her house over the years and animal-sitting for others. She co-authored an article with Susan Pope, "The Valentines: Greatest Outdoor Flying Act," for *Gleanings From the Heart of the Cornbelt*, the fall 2005 journal of the McLean County Genealogical Society.



## Leatherman appointed director of International Affairs

The college has appointed Janie Leatherman, professor of political science, its new director of International Affairs. The position was created in January 2005 to provide administrative leadership to and coordination of the many international programs in the college. Leatherman brings a vast array of experience to the position. She holds a Ph.D. in international studies from the Graduate School of International Studies at the University of Denver, has studied and worked abroad in a number of universities, and has a command of several languages. She has also collaborated on international research and policy-related projects, and has a successful record of external funding from the United States and other foreign governments as well as private foundations. Leatherman has served as a consultant and conflict practitioner to U.S. and international programs and agencies.



Leatherman's responsibilities as director of International Affairs include coordinating area studies initiatives within the college, serving as an advocate for the integration of international perspectives across the curriculum, promoting international research and collaboration between faculty and students, and supervising and working with the director of the English Language Institute. During 2005 Leatherman has been facilitating program development with China, Spain, and Guatemala, and is serving as director of the Latin American and Latino Studies Program now housed in the Office of International Affairs.



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## College award winners

Each year the College of Arts and Sciences selects the top faculty in three categories: scholarship, service, and teaching. The Department of Politics and Government has set a new precedent in having winners in each category in the same year.

Ali Riaz (left) was selected as the College Outstanding Researcher. Riaz has four books in English and more than a dozen books in Bengali. His publications include *God Willing: The Politics of Islamism in Bangladesh* (Rowman and Littlefield, 2004) and *State, Class and Military Rule: Political Economy of Martial Law in Bangladesh* (Nadi New Press, 1994). His most recent book, released this November, is titled *Unfolding State: The Transformation of Bangladesh* (de Sitter Publications).

Gary Klass (center) was selected as the recipient of the College Outstanding Service Award. Klass has been extremely active in the Illinois State-Illinois Wesleyan student chapter of Habitat for Humanity. He co-founded this chapter in 1993 and has since served as faculty advisor or project co-director. He is also active in his profession. As one of the individuals who submitted a letter of recommendation on his behalf stated, "Klass has a national reputation as a servant of the academic community and a facilitator of research and communication." At the university level, Klass has served on the Academic Senate and he created and administered the listserv for ISUTEACH, an asynchronous Internet discussion about teaching at Illinois State University.

George Kiser (right) was awarded the Outstanding College Teacher Award. Kiser has a long career of excellent teaching. Since coming to Illinois State in 1974, he has served tenures as the University's pre-law advisor and acting director of legal studies and legal internships. He has also directed and taught the LSAT prep course, advised the Law Club, and served on the board of directors of Student Legal Services and as Illinois State's representative to the Legislative Internship Program in Springfield. He teaches courses on the courts and constitutional law. Prominent judges and lawyers return to him for advice long after their graduation. He also prides himself on his accessibility to students, saying he will meet with them whenever they need to meet. According to his statement of teaching philosophy, Kiser never lets a moment pass when he has a chance to teach students. He also treats each class as a new experiment and adjusts his assignments to keep pace with changing legal trends.

## NEWS FROM THE FACULTY...

**Robert Bradley** presented "Comparing the Land of CSI to the Land of Sherlock Holmes: A TransAtlantic Analysis of Forensic Science" at the 2005 Law & Society Conference in Las Vegas in June. As a result of his conference appearance, Bradley was invited to join a group of scholars and scientists from across the country who submitted an amicus brief in a criminal case before the Massachusetts Supreme Court which dealt with the admissibility of fingerprint evidence. The brief was filed in August. He also attended the 2005 meeting of the American Democracy Project (ADP) in Portland, Oregon, in June. At the meeting, Bradley was invited to participate in a task force on a Jury Initiative Project which is designed to enhance awareness about juries among college students and community members. This task force (Illinois State is one of 14 college and universities in the country on the task force) will develop various programs to accomplish its purpose. A report on those programs will be given at the 2006 ADP meeting in Utah and the reports will be combined into a guide for other colleges and universities by a consortium led by *The New York Times*.

**Lane Crothers** presented several papers in 2005, including

- "Globalization and American Popular Culture: Dynamics of Integration and Fragmentation," at the Third International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities, Cambridge University, United Kingdom, August 2–5, 2005
- "American Mission, American Election: American Exceptionalism and the 2004 Presidential Election," at the American Politics Group Conference, Political Studies Association, Canterbury, United Kingdom, January 2005
- "Globalization and the Representation of Gender in American Popular Culture," delivered at The International Conference on Diversity in Communities, Organizations and Nations Symposium: Women, Diversity and Human Rights, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT), Melbourne, Australia, December 2005

Crothers' speaking engagements included

- Christopher Hitchens, "Is America at War with Terrorism?," panel participant, Illinois State University, October 2005
- McLean County ACLU, participant, panel discussion, "Is America Becoming a Theocracy?," Bloomington, October 2005
- Illinois State University College Democrats, participant, panel discussion on John Roberts as Supreme Court nominee, Illinois State University, September 2005
- Redbirds for Relief, "A Call to Service," rally in support of the victims of Hurricane Katrina, Illinois State University, September 2005

**Janie Leatherman** published *Charting Transnational Democracy: Beyond Global Arrogance* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2005), co-edited with Julie Webber. She also has several other publications this year, including

- "Gender and U.S. Foreign Policy: Hegemonic Masculinity, the War in Iraq and the UN-Doing of World Order," pp. 103–126 in Sue Tolleson-Rinehart and Jyl J. Josephson, eds., *Gender and American Politics: Women, Men and the Political Process*, revised 2nd edition. New York: ME Sharpe
- Both German- and English-language editions of "Trafficking in Human Beings: Perspectives on U.S. Policy and the OSCE Context," *2004 OSCE Yearbook* (English-language edition) Baden-Baden, Germany: Nomos Verlagsgesellschaft

Leatherman delivered two papers at the International Studies Association Annual Conference in Hawaii, March 2005:

- "New Actors and Boundaries of Discipline and Punishment in Global Politics" for the panel on Discipline and Punishment in Global Politics: Illusions of Control
- "Militarized Masculinity and Runaway Norms: 1325 and the Challenge of Overcoming Extreme Violence," with Nadia Negroustoueva, for the panel on From Rhetoric to Practice: The Challenges of Implementing UN Security Council Resolution 1325

Leatherman also served as a panelist in April at the "United Nations and Global Security" town hall meeting sponsored by Americans for Informed Democracy (AID) and the Stanley Foundation, held at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. In

September, she was interviewed on Aurora's WBIG morning program, *People to People*, with Brian Felsten—a two-hour live call-in on United Nations reform.

**Richard Payne** and **Jamal Nassar** published the second edition of *Politics and Culture in the Developing World: Impact of Globalization*.

**Ali Riaz** has published one book and four papers, presented at six conferences, and was panelist in six panels. He earned the College of Arts and Sciences first Dean's Award for Outstanding Scholarly Achievement 2004, and has been awarded the Outstanding College Researcher Award 2005. Riaz also worked as external consultant for the Department for International Development (DFID) of the British Government, and currently works as consultant for the Crisis Prevention and Peace Forum of the SSRC. He chairs the Council on General Education and has been elected to the University Review Board.

Riaz's new book *Unfolding State: The Transformation of Bangladesh* (Ontario, Canada: de Sitter Publications) has been released this November. His publications include

- "Global Jihad, Sectarianism and The Madrassahs in Pakistan." Institute of Defense and Strategic Studies, Singapore, Working paper No. 85)
- "Bangladesh in 2004: The Politics of Vengeance and the Erosion of Democracy." *Asian Survey*, v. 45, no. 1, (January/February)

His presentations include

- "Crisis of Hegemony and Political Islam in Bangladesh," symposium on the Politics of Religion: Nation, Identity and Difference, Purdue University, November 3, 2005
- "The State-Society Relationships and Political Conflicts in Nepal," Religious and Social Fragmentation And Economic Development in South Asia, Cornell University, October 15–16, 2005
- "The Dangerous Liaison: Madrassahs and Militant Islamism in Bangladesh," 34th Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin, Madison, October 6–9, 2005
- "We Do Not See Any Sign or Hope: U.S.-Bangladesh Contacts in 1971," conference on South Asia in Crisis: United States Policy, 1961–1972, organized by the U.S. Department of State, Office of Historian. June 28–29, 2005
- "Pakistan's Madrassahs: Teaching the Alphabets of Jihad?," 57th Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies, Chicago, March 31–April 3, 2005
- "Radical Islam in Bangladesh," conference on Islamic Trends in Bangladesh organized by the U.S. Department of State, Washington, D.C., January 24, 2005

He was also panelist on panels organized by the Society of Professional Journalists (Illinois State chapter), the Americans for Informed Democracy, and the Open Forum.

**Manfred B. Steger** has been on leave during the 2005–2006 academic year, serving as professor of global studies and head of the School of International and Community Studies at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology in Melbourne, Australia. Throughout 2005, he has given invited lectures on globalization at various universities in Australia, China, Japan, Southeast Asia, and the Pacific. He has published several articles in top-rated journals, including the *Journal of Political Ideology* and *Contemporary Political Theory*.



## Professor Nassar receives book award

Jamal R. Nassar has recently been granted the Choice Outstanding Book Award for his book, *Globalization and Terrorism: The Migration of Dreams and Nightmares*. This award comes from one of the preeminent library journals in the United States, and his book was recognized for offering an important perspective on the sources of terrorism. For Nassar, terrorism has been a part of his life since his birth in Jerusalem in 1946. "I am pleased to learn of Professor Nassar's significant award," said Dean Olson. "His ability to serve as chair of his department, continue to be one of the college's most outstanding teachers, and produce award-winning research is amazing."



Nassar, chair of the Department of Politics and Government, explains that globalization and terrorism are both charged concepts; people use the terms loosely, often to further political ends. In his book Nassar carefully defines these concepts by putting them into historical and political context, and then explores the way in which the dreams inspired by globalization can translate into the nightmare of terrorism. Even as he offers a compelling critique of Western hegemony, Nassar conveys his respect and hope for an enlightened global interdependence—embracing the power of the dream over the nightmares.

The book has received praise from many noted scholars. Professor Stephen Eric Bronner of Rutgers University wrote, "In this exceptionally well-written work, Jamal Nassar has offered a humane meditation on some of the most important issues and enduring conflicts of our epoch." Professor Richard Falk of Princeton University said, "Globalization and Terrorism is invaluable as a check against unacceptable American innocence about the United States' role in the world."

Every year *Choice* publishes a list of Outstanding Academic Titles that were reviewed during the previous calendar year. It contains approximately 10 percent of some 6,600 works reviewed by *Choice* each year. Editors apply several criteria to all reviewed titles when awarding Outstanding Academic Titles, from overall excellence in presentation and scholarship to importance in building undergraduate library collections.

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# Politics and Government donor roll

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**T.Y. Wang** was a visiting professor in the political science department at National Chengchi University during the fall 2005 semester while on sabbatical.

Wang served as editor of *China After the Sixteenth Party Congress: Prospects and Challenges* (de Sitter Publications, 2005); and guest editor for the following:

- “Taiwan’s National Identity and Democratization.” *Journal of Asian and African Studies*, v. 40, no. 1–2 (2005)
- “The Perception of Threats and Pragmatic Policy Choice.” *Issues & Studies*, v. 41, no. 1 (March 2005): 87–111
- “The Scope and Methods of American Political Science.” (in Chinese) In Xun Wang & Guoli Liu (eds.) *On the Frontiers of Science: Social Sciences, Volume III* (Beijing: Tsinghua University Press, 2005): 3–20
- “Taiwan’s Bid for UN Membership.” In Edward Friedman (ed.) *China’s Rise, Taiwan’s Dilemmas, and International Peace* (Routledge)

Wang was co-author (with G. Andy Chang) of “Taiwanese or Chinese? Independence or Unification? An Analysis of Generational Differences in Taiwan.” *Journal of Asian and African Studies* v. 40, no. 1–2 (2005): 29–49.

Wang’s presentations included

- “Ethnicity and Politics in Taiwan,” international conference on Taiwan’s Election and Democratization Studies, Taiwan
- “Democratic Commitment in Taiwan,” conference on “Emerging Democracies and Democratic Values,” University of North Texas
- “Double-Renunciation: Could This Be the Solution for Cross-Strait Conflict?” 2005 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association
- “Explaining Taiwan Citizens’ Policy Preferences,” conference on Public Opinions and Cross-Strait Relations
- “Political Tolerance in Taiwan: Is There a Gap between Elites and Masses?,” international conference on Taiwan Election and Democratization Studies (with Lu-hui Chen)
- “Extended Deterrence and U.S. Policy Towards the Taiwan Issue,” conference of Vision of Democracy and Security in the Asia Pacific Region, Taiwan

He also served as invited speaker of the International Master’s Program in Taiwan Studies (IMTS) and International Master’s Program in China Studies, National Chengchi University in Taiwan, June 27–July 14, 2005, and was invited speaker of the Methodology Summer Camp by Academia Sinica in Taiwan, July 18–July 29, 2005.

**Julie Webber** submitted an external research grant, “Expanding the American Curriculum: Understanding the Muslim World,” submitted to NEH, fall 2005, project investigator with Ali Riaz and T.Y. Wang. Webber presented a paper entitled “With Impunity: The Theoretical Dynamics of Gender, Shame and Grief in 1325 and Beyond,” for the panel From Rhetoric to Practice: The Challenges of Implementing UN Security Council Resolution 1325. She was also a discussant in “Discourses of War,” International Studies Association Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii, March 1–5, 2005.

Webber chaired Morag E. Boyd’s master’s thesis, “Internet Based Political Structures: Mediating Individuals, Communities and the State,” defended May 2005. It received the Departmental Outstanding Thesis Award and was nominated for the Fisher Thesis Competition in August 2005. Webber has been elected to the Research Proposal Review Board for the 2005–2007 term and is an executive board member of the Center for Reading Literacy.

**David Weiden** published, as lead author, “Engagement or Regurgitation?: Teaching American Government without a Textbook” (with Earl Phippen), *Politics & Policy*, v. 33, no. 1 (2005): 183–197. He also co-authored a technical report, “Cloud County Community College: Geary County Campus Survey Report” (with Mike Walker and Brett Zollinger), Docking Institute of Public Affairs, 2005; and served as co-principal investigator on a research project for Docking Institute of Public Affairs: Kansas Department of Corrections, 2005. The project will conduct a cost-benefit analysis of residential substance abuse treatment programs.

## STUDENT NEWS AND ACTIVITIES...

### Model Illinois Government

BY NANCY LIND

The Model Illinois Government Team from Illinois State University's Department of Politics and Government competed in the 27th Annual Model Illinois Government (MIG) Simulation at the Springfield capitol complex in March. The event is a realistic and thrilling opportunity for students to experience the process of democratic government in a setting that allows them to sit at legislators' desks and not just use the microphones, voting buttons, and behind-the-scenes meeting rooms. Students debate current issues facing the State of Illinois, such as granting illegal immigrants the right to obtain drivers' licenses and designating a Ronald Reagan Day in Illinois. The MIG competition brings together about 300 college students from over two dozen Illinois colleges to debate actual bills that are before the Illinois Senate and the House.

For the 2004–2005 session, Aaron Hughes (senior politics and government major from Kewanee) was elected assistant minority leader and won the award for Best Senator in a Committee. For the 2005–2006 session, Hughes was elected treasurer and Dan O'Donnell (junior politics and government major from Oak Lawn) was elected governor. Dana Van de Walker (senior politics and government major from Danville) was elected whip and wrote original legislation mandating internships for college graduation, which passed overwhelmingly. Members of the team noted the opportunity to participate in MIG helped develop leadership skills and a greater understanding of how parliamentary procedure is conducted. Mark Swenson, a junior who participated in MIG for the past two years, explained the event as an opportunity for networking as well. "Graduates and alumni from previous programs hold political positions now, and some work at the capitol," he said. MIG is one way for students to interact with persons in politics before interviewing to enter the field, an ambition many participants hold.

### Pre-law awards banquet

BY THOMAS EIMERMANN

On Saturday, April 16, pre-law students, faculty, and staff, along with Illinois State attorney alums, gathered in the Old Main Room for the 5th Annual Pre-Law Awards Banquet. The Honorable William F. Costigan, retired partner in the Bloomington law firm Costigan & Wollrab and former president of the McLean County Bar, delivered the keynote address.

Illinois State's mock trial attorney coach, Mick Hall '89, member of the Attorneys Advisory Council and attorney with The Hall Law Group, Ltd., in Peoria, presented the Mock Trial Awards. The award for Mock Trial Outstanding Witness went to Josh Rinker, a sophomore political science major from Normal. Abisola Adekoya, a sophomore English major from Chicago, was awarded the Mock Trial Outstanding Attorney Award. The Mock Trial Leadership

Award, which is awarded to the mock trial team member who exhibits strong leadership skills and makes significant contributions to team spirit and unity, was presented to Kevin O'Laughlin, a senior majoring in political science from Metamora. Barry Tolchin, a political science graduate student from Lockport who served as a volunteer coach for the team, was honored with the Mock Trial



Mick Hall (far left) and Tom Eimermann (far right) with the 2005 pre-law award winners

Distinguished Service Award, a new award established to recognize a non-team member for their service of time and dedication to the Mock Trial Team. Carl Kasten '66, member of the Attorneys Advisory Council, current chair of the Illinois State University Board of Trustees, and attorney with Phelps, Kasten, Ruyle, Burnes & Sims in Carlinville, presented the Carl Kasten Pre-Law Leadership Award to Kevin O'Laughlin. This award goes to a graduating pre-law student who exhibits strong leadership skills and makes significant contributions to extracurricu-

*Continued on next page*

### Political science honors awards

The annual Department of Politics and Government and Pi Sigma Alpha Honors reception was held on April 26, 2005, in the Circus Room of the Bone Student Center. The following students received recognition:

#### Pi Sigma Alpha inductees

Morag E. Boyd	Craig Kauzlarich
Terri Campion	Zach Koutsky
Sarah DeWitt	Hussain M. Marrar
Devadatta Gandhi	Adrian Marquez
Josh Garrison	Edward Matiassek
Elizabeth German	Sergio A. Mercado
Morghan A. Gleason	Brea Moon
Jermain Griffin	Mary Randolph
Sarah R. Grove	Jonathan P. Remkus
Ashley Helleman	Daniel Robertson
Nicholas A. Henthorn	Emily J. Shallberg
Stefanie A. Jachimiak	Cynthia J. Suwalski
Katharine James	Dana Van De Walker
Mary L. Johnson	Steven C. Zahn

#### Hibbert R. Roberts Outstanding Senior Award

Dana Van De Walker

#### Tom Wilson Internship Award

Matt Hornung

#### Alice Ebel Award

Rebecca Ublish

#### Political Science Minority Student Scholarship

Allison Leary

#### Thomas More Scholarship in Political Theory

Zachary Gebhardt

#### Frank M. and Hermina R. Giordano

#### Scholarship Award

Layla Johnston

Edward Matiassek

### Field awards

#### Comparative Government/International Relations

Jacob Leon McCray-Beier

#### American Government

Rebecca Schnorf

#### Public Law

Meghan Carr

#### Public Administration

Jonathan Remkus

#### Outstanding Legal Studies Student

Rebecca Ublish

#### Outstanding Graduate Student Award

Anthony DiMaggio

#### Charter Department Graduate

#### Student Excellence Award

Devadatta Gandhi

### Conference paper awards

#### Undergraduate

First place: Brian Crisher, Western Michigan  
Second place: Patrick Brown, Providence College  
Third place: Miguel Harvey, University of Texas

#### Graduate

First place: James Smith, University of Illinois at Chicago  
Second place: Clayton Thyne, University of Iowa  
Third place: Devadatta Gandhi, Illinois State University

#### Hibbert R. Roberts Teaching Excellence

#### Recognition Award

T.Y. Wang

## Model United Nations

BY JANIE LEATHERMAN

Every spring the Department of Politics and Government provides funding in support of Illinois State University's participation in the National Model United Nations (NMUN). This year the Illinois State University team will be collaborating with a group of students from the University of Calgary, Canada. The joint delegation will represent Spain, currently a member state on the UN Security Council. The two teams will collaborate in the preparation of position papers for the NMUN and join each other in New York for the April 11-15, 2006, simulation that opens and closes in the UN General Assembly. The NMUN is a program of the National Collegiate Conference Association (NCCA), which is both a non-governmental organization of the United Nations and also a non-profit organization in the United States. The NMUN brings together over 3,000 students, nearly half from universities outside the United States. The NMUN provides opportunities for teams to represent either states or nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) affiliated with the United Nations, as well as meetings with diplomats from their assigned country's UN mission, and experts from the NGOs offices in New York.

Professor Janie Leatherman is faculty advisor to the NMUN for the Illinois State University delegation. She also serves as faculty advisor for the Model UN student organization which organizes student participation in other Model UN programs. Students interested in participating in the National Model UN should take "International Organizations" (POL 252) in the fall semester as essential preparation. Students involved in the program include April Clemons, Brent Flora, Anthony Grant, Zachary Gebhardt, Stefanie Jachimiak, Jessica Junis, Alison Leary, Caroline Oles, Megan Randall, Kelly Sons, Rachel Vincent, and Jason Waters.

lar law-related activities at the University.

Tom Eimmermann, professor emeritus of political science and mock trial educator coach, presented the Tom Eimmermann Outstanding Pre-Law Student Award. The award goes to a graduating pre-law student who combines the highest level of academic performance with the most significant participation in extracurricular university activities and community service. The 2005 winner was Morghan Gleason, a senior from Lockport majoring in political science. For more information on the pre-law program at Illinois State or information on the Attorneys Advisory Council, visit [www.cas.ilstu.edu/advisoryboards/attorneyadvisory.htm](http://www.cas.ilstu.edu/advisoryboards/attorneyadvisory.htm)

## The American Model United Nations International Conference

BY TANYA AUSTIN

On November 19-22, 2005, Illinois State's Model United Nations took part in the American Model United Nations (AMUN) International conference in Chicago. During the four-day conference, members of the University representing Indonesia and Cote d'Ivoire discussed pertinent world topics such as international terrorism, economic development, and the right to food.

The conference gave members the opportunity to learn and experience the true workings of the United Nations. Representatives learned diplomacy, public speaking skills, the art of compromise, and resolution and report writing. The opening ceremony was highlighted by the keynote speaker, Ambassador Ahmad Kamal, who served as the ambassador and the permanent representative from Pakistan for 40 years.

Committees and participants included

- Christina Brown, Kyle Schneider, and Megan Randall on General Assembly (GA) Plenary
- Nick Anson, Jacqueline Mutege, and Todd Long on GA 1st Committee: Disarmament and International Security
- Kaitie Barclay and Abir Mandal on GA 2nd Committee: Economic and Financial
- Kalen Tjarks and Jon Kaminsky on GA 3rd Committee: Social, Humanitarian and Cultural
- Elizabeth Ihde and Neil McHugh on 6th Committee: Legal
- Swetha Singari on Economic and Social Council
- Kim Kozel on The Commission on the Status of Women
- Dana Van de Walker on International Court of Justice
- Vanda Rajcan on Historic Security Council
- Tanya Austin on AMUN Staff



Model United Nations Team

One committee that the members participated on was the Historic Security Council of 1973, which discussed topics ranging from Rhodesia to the Panama Canal to the coup in Chile. A crisis simulation occurred at 2 a.m. on Tuesday in which the beginning of the Yom Kippur War began and members of the Historic Security Council attempted to diffuse the conflict peacefully. In addition, one member participated as a justice in the International Court of Justice where she heard court disputes on the United States vs. Iran; Slovakia vs. Hungary; and Malaysia vs. Singapore. On Monday evening, delegates participated in a Delegate Ball, which was a fun and relaxing change from the fast-paced and demanding schedule of the committee sessions. All in all, members of Illinois State's Model United Nations had a fun, yet educational, experience and look forward to AMUN 2006. For further information, please e-mail Tanya Austin at [trausti@ilstu.edu](mailto:trausti@ilstu.edu)

## Attorney alum returns to campus

Laura Long '94, who earned her Juris Doctor degree from Harvard Law School in 1997, joined the Department of Politics and Government on Friday, October 7, for Alumni Day. She was a key panelist on the College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Day Panel on Careers in the Law where she presented information on succeeding in the legal profession.

Long began her legal career while still a student at Harvard when she served as both staff editor and submissions/article editor for the *Environmental Law Review*. She served her first clerkship at Samuels, Miller, Schroeder, Jackson and Sly in Decatur, where she researched and wrote legal memoranda on real estate, small business, and municipal law issues. Her second clerkship was served in Chicago at the firm of Rudnick and Wolfe, where she researched and wrote legal memoranda on corporate and real estate transactions.

After her graduation from Harvard Law, Long was hired as a corporate associate with the firm of Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver and Jacobson, LLP, in Los Angeles. She handled all facets of complex corporate transactions; represented investment funds and major corporations in connection with private and public equity transactions, securities offerings, and mergers and acquisitions; and drafted and negotiated principal and collateral documents relating to private and public transactions, including stock and asset purchase agreements, merger agreements, stockholder agreements, registration rights agreements, warrant agreements, and indentures. She also drafted and reviewed SEC public filings in connection with public company transactions and advised clients with respect to corporate matters, securities laws, and general commercial law.

In July 2005 Long joined Bingham, McCutchen, LLP, as corporate counsel. This firm is a national legal powerhouse with 11 offices in the United States and abroad, focused on serving clients involved in complex legal transactions. Collaboration, focused diversification, and growth by merger and acquisition are the cornerstone of Bingham McCutchen's and Laura Long's success.

## Spotlight on our alumni

**Alumnus with two degrees from the department will join the faculty roster this spring**

BY ELAINE GRAYBILL

A former student in the Politics and Government Department has come back to teach.

Chika Nnamani, who earned a bachelor's degree in political science in 1980 with a double major in mass communication, and an M.A. in political science in 1982 with an emphasis on international relations and public administration, will be in the classroom during the spring 2006 semester and beyond. This spring, Nnamani will teach a seminar section of "Global Issues" (POL 254) with a focus on Africa. He previously taught "Introduction to the Politics of Africa, Asia, and Latin America" (POL 140) for the department.

Nnamani is a familiar figure on the Illinois State University campus, where he has been an administrator for more than a decade and active in university service. He is assistant vice president of Student Affairs, overseeing Campus Dining Services, University Housing Services, Campus Recreational Services, and food venues operations in the Bone Student Center.



*Continued on next page*

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## Alumni: We need your help

BY NANCY LIND

Many of you are now successful professionals in positions that can help our students. Many students every semester are looking for paid and unpaid internships and jobs in the administrative, governmental, legal, or political fields. If you know of any openings in these fields, it would be great if you could send a brief job/intern announcement, requirements, and contact information to Nancy S. Lind, internship director, at [nslind@ilstu.edu](mailto:nslind@ilstu.edu). Not only will you connect with other politics and government students but you may also find the talent you have been seeking for your organization. We continue to have some of the best and brightest students in the University.

If you are interested in being invited back to campus as a distinguished alum, please e-mail a current vitae to [nslind@ilstu.edu](mailto:nslind@ilstu.edu).

Teaching in the department is “a way of giving back in appreciation for the wonderful professors I’ve had who have helped me become who I am today,” Nnamani said. Also, he values the opportunity to teach as a way of “cultivating my interests in this area and staying in touch with what is going in the world.” He anticipates teaching the same course in fall 2006.

In his course Nnamani plans to “identify the big issues that transcend the continent,” he said, naming colonialism as the first of those. He said he would like to examine “the myth that Africa was a dark continent where nothing would have been achieved without the intervention by European powers.” He noted the critical date of 1885, when the door to colonialism was opened at the Berlin Conference at which Africa was divided among European nations. His course will look at pre-colonial thriving governance structures of African empires including Gambia, Ghana, Mali, and the Hausa-Fulani, Igbo, and Yoruba kingdoms. Nnamani’s course also will touch on the politics in Africa of the International Monetary Fund, World Bank loans, poverty, aid to developing countries, leadership, military, AIDS, environmental issues, religion, terrorism, and ethnic groups in conflict.

Nnamani has spent most—but not all—of his entire career on this campus. After earning a second master’s degree from Illinois State, an M.S. in history in 1984 with an emphasis on diplomatic, intellectual, and military history, Nnamani began working in the housing area of the University as a residence hall coordinator. Prior to that, during his undergraduate years, he had served as a management assistant. He served in various progressively higher administrative positions in the housing area until he left Illinois State in July 1993 to become director of the University Housing Service at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He served in that position two years, at which time he became executive director of University Housing and Dining Services at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb. In July 1996 he returned to Illinois State as director of Office of Residential Life (ORL), and two years later he was promoted to his current position.

Nnamani and his wife, Uzoamaka ’82, live in Bloomington and are the parents of Ogonna, Njideka, Nnaemeka (a freshman in the College of Business at Illinois State University), and Ikechi.

## Alumni accomplishments

Two political science alumni have been chosen to receive awards by the University Alumni Association. **Laura Long ’94** has been selected to receive the Outstanding Young Alumni Award and **Taye Woldesmiat ’82** has been selected to receive the E. Burton Mercier Alumni Service Award.

**Daniel Boucek ’83, M.S. ’89**, has completed his master’s degree in policy management at Georgetown University and has been granted several prestigious awards in 2005. First, he was given the President’s Award for Integrity and Efficiency in Government for his work on the successful settling of a lawsuit between the Northrop Grumman Corporation and the U.S. Government. He was also selected as Special Agent of the Year for his work with the Office of Inspector General, an award granted to only one agent per year.

**Ricardo Meza ’86**, a former assistant U.S. attorney who began his legal career at MALDEF, has been named the Latino civil rights organization’s Midwest regional counsel. Based in Chicago, Meza is responsible for MALDEF litigation and public policy matters in 10 Midwestern states, focusing on education, employment, immigrants’ rights, and political access/voting rights issues for Latinos. He replaces Maria Valdez, who was appointed federal magistrate after nearly 13 years at MALDEF.

Meza received his law degree from John Marshall Law School in 1990, where he was president of the Hispanic Law Students Association. He is a board member of the Chicago Health Connection, Omni Youth Services, and the Illinois State University Attorneys Advisory Council. He has received numerous awards, including the 2003 Merit Award from the Hispanic Illinois State Law Enforcement Association and

the 2002 Distinguished Graduate Award for Community Service from Palatine High School.

**James T. Durkin '89, M.S. '91**, has returned to working as a civil investigator for a federal contractor of the Drug Enforcement Administration in Chicago. He previously worked there from 1991 to 1998. His novel, *In My Dreams*, was released as a second edition in March 2005. It is a fictional novel about a young man from the suburbs of Chicago who is elected president of the United States. He co-founded the Authors Marketing Group, published authors in the Chicago area who meet five times per year to discuss positive marketing ideas and experiences for publishing their books. He is also a part-time college instructor of political science classes at the College of DuPage and Moraine Valley Community College. Jim and wife, Laura (Graunke) '92, reside in Woodridge with their 7-year-old son.

**Jason Barickman '98** passed the Illinois Bar exam and was sworn in as an attorney on November 10, 2005. Jason will be forming the law office of Bartell & Barickman, LLP, with Jason Bartell.

**Joel Fritzler, M.S. '00**, was elected to the Carbondale City Council on April 5, 2005, and was sworn in on May 3, 2005. Joel is a research project specialist in the Office of Research Development and Administration at Southern Illinois University.

**Horace P. Lewis '01** is a social insurance specialist with the Social Security Administration. Horace reviews and authorizes claims and other complex entitlement determinations for benefits under Titles II and XVIII of the Social Security Act. He is also responsible for complete development and evaluation of all facts and evidence, determines issues in any claim or referred post-adjudicative action, and prepares formal or informal determinations relating the facts, evidence, and issues to the requirements of the Social Security Act and policies including appropriate precedent cases.

**Kevin O'Brien '04** was hired by the Democratic National Committee to work in Columbus, Ohio, and Washington, D.C., following his graduation. He focused on voter contact and voter turnout, as well as fund-raising, in a decisive "battleground" state during the 2004 presidential election.

Since early 2005, Kevin has been working for the Five Stones/Wal-Mart Watch in Washington, D.C. He is a member of the field staff, a grassroots campaign focused on encouraging Wal-Mart to be a better corporate citizen, a better neighbor, and a better employer. Kevin has been working with a diverse coalition of women's, labor, faith, environmental, and community-based groups.

## Alumni dollars at work



Professor Richard J. Payne teaches a seminar class in the Larry C. Williams Seminar Room, which was made possible by the generosity of Larry C. Williams '77, M.S. '79.

## We appreciate your support!

The Department of Politics and Government is continually moving forward offering new programs, new courses, and new opportunities for students with the help of donors like you. Your contributions help support our student academic conference, the Model United Nations program, the mock trial program, and a variety of student achievement awards. We would like to thank our donors for their generous support and encourage all of our alums to consider supporting our commitment to excellence and keeping our program on the cutting edge.

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