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DEPARTMENT OF
 POLITICS AND
 GOVERNMENT

POLITICAL SCIENCE

NEWS & VIEWS

SPRING 2011

Chair's remarks

BY ALI RIAZ

The past year was a very productive and successful year for the department and my colleagues.

Departmental programs and a number of faculty received recognition from the University and the professional community. Lane Crothers received the University Distinguished Service Award, Bob Bradley received the College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Service Award, and Noha Shawki was named the recipient of University Service Initiative Award.



Thomas McClure received the These Lawyers Care award from the Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA) for his contribution to the success of the Mock Trial Teams in recent years. The ISBA also recognized our Mock Trial Team and gave These Lawyers Care awards to two faculty members, Scott Kording and Mick Hall. Nancy Lind was the recipient of WEEK Women in Leadership Award. Erik Rankin received the Outstanding Professor from Panhellenic Association and was recognized as an Outstanding Mentor by Red Tassel Mortar Board. Professor Emeritus Thomas Eimmermann was recognized with honorary lifetime membership by the American Association for Paralegal Education. These awards are testimony to the faculty members' dedicated services to the University and the community at large.

These successes came in the year when our Paralegal Program received the approval of the American Bar Association (ABA). The ABA endorsement is a milestone for the program and the department. The program achieved its success through the efforts of faculty, students, and supporters of the past 35 years of its existence.

Continued on next page

Department begins 2010–2011 with excellence

BY CASSIE MONROE

The Department of Politics and Government started off the 2010–2011 academic year with a bang by earning approval by the American Bar Association (ABA) for the Paralegal Studies Program. Also acknowledged in the department were the Illinois Bar Association recognition of the mock trial team and the addition of a new faculty member to teach public law courses. The ABA's approval of the Legal Studies Program at Illinois State University was a decision made during its annual meeting of the House of Delegates in August.

"This endorsement was a long time coming," said Thomas McClure, an attorney and professor in the department as well as the director of Legal Studies.

Although the paralegal program has had the same high standard since it was founded in 1975 by Tom Eimmermann, this approval increases the value of the program for prospective students and employers.

"It enhances the ability of our graduates to get better jobs," McClure said. "The ABA approval is the gold standard."

The program is offered as a minor, a certificate without a bachelor's degree, and a certificate with a bachelor's degree.

The Political Science Department applied for approval in August 2008. There were many stages, including preparing a self-evaluation report, a site visit by the ABA in January 2010 and a review by the Approval Commission. The paralegal program publishes a job newsletter, which helps new graduates find employment opportunities available. The program's advisory board aids the program's connection to the community.

MOCK TRIAL TEAM COACHES RECOGNIZED

Not only was Illinois State University recognized by the American Bar Association, but by the Illinois State Bar Association as well this year.

The Illinois State mock trial team's attorney coaches, Scott Kording and Mick Hall, received a These Lawyers Care award in recognition of their hard work and dedication to the team. Thomas McClure also received this award for his work as educator coach of the mock trial team.

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From left to right, Scott Kording, Thomas McClure, Mick Hall, and Illinois State Bar Association President Mark Hassakis.

Chair's remarks, continued from page 1

Alums and members of the Program's Advisory Board made remarkable contributions in achieving this recognition.

My colleagues continue to distinguish themselves through their scholarship. Lane Crothers's recognition as the CAS Distinguished Lecturer 2010–2011 was based on his many accomplishments in past years. In 2010 department faculty published two books, 17 journal articles, and made 23 professional presentations. They also secured a number of internal and external grants.

The department's commitment to offer undergraduate and graduate courses that address timely topics from a wide range of perspectives and to create opportunities for students to foster their analytical skills and leadership abilities in structured programs outside the formal classroom has remained steady. This has helped our students secure distinguished awards, make presentations at professional conferences, and publish peer reviewed articles. In 2010 Nicholas Paul Beaty won the James L. Fisher Outstanding Thesis Award for Social Sciences, Adrian Marquez and Jason Hochstatter presented at national conferences, and Jessica Bastian co-authored a book chapter.

Our alumni continue to be at the forefront of public service and various professional fields. In the election of 2010 one of our alumni, Adam Kinzinger '00, was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, Ricardo Meza '06 was appointed to head the state's Office of Executive Inspector General (OEIG) by Governor Pat Quinn, and Theresa Miller Delin '88, M.S. '90, was named the acting director of University Housing at Northwestern University. We congratulate them on their successes and wish them well.

These achievements make all of us proud, but we are also humbled as these successes bring new responsibilities to work for greater achievements in the years to come.



Become a fan of the Department of Politics and Government on Facebook—a place for alumni and current students to post on our wall about jobs and events, and share photos!

Department begins 2010–2011 with excellence, continued from page 1

“We are really thankful for all of the support we receive from the legal community, both in Chicago and Central Illinois,” McClure said.

McClure explained what makes the Illinois State mock trial team different is the educators' focus on skill building, not just winning competitions.

“Although we certainly like to win, that is not our focus,” he said. “We want our students to become successful litigators armed with skills they can use after they graduate.”

The Mock Trial program was established in 1987 by Illinois State alumnus Appellate Judge James Knecht and Professor Emeritus Tom Eimmermann. Since 2002, Illinois State has hosted an invitational mock trial tournament at the Mclean County Law and Justice Center, and in 2003 the Illinois State University mock trial team won the American Mock Trial Association Tournament.

The mock trial team is just one of several ways students can begin their law education at Illinois State. Several courses have been designed to give students an introductory look at law school.

Public law is a subfield of political science. There are several junior- and senior-level courses with classes that include U.S. Judicial Process, Intro to the American Legal System, a course on the First Amendment and on Due Process.

“Virtually every university has a pre-law program,” said Robert Bradley, Illinois State political science professor. “There is a preconceived notion that a bachelor's degree in political science is what you need to go to law school.”

Although Bradley usually tells students to get a bachelor's degree in a subject that truly interests them instead of exclusively focusing on pre-law, he thinks students should take at least one course where a fair amount of material is in court decision making. He recommends students take a public law course to see if the course work is what they'd be interested in making a career out of.

**THOMAS EIMERMANN
PRE-LAW ADVISEMENT CENTER**

Robert Bradley has been teaching students about law for years, and has been working as an advisor in the Pre-Law Advisement Center since 2002. He is the director of the center, which he established to help students and alumni find out about law school, including the application process and requirements. The center is located on the fourth floor of Schroeder Hall.

“The center was created with no funding. Everything was done with no budget whatsoever,” Bradley said.

The center organizes law school trips for the students, taking them to several campuses in the Midwest to meet with and experience what attending would entail. Students involved with the center also are invited to travel to the annual pre-law student conference.

A large donation from David Crumbaugh has enabled the Pre-Law Advisement Center to continue operating. Since he made such an immense contribution, Crumbaugh was given the honor of naming the center.



AAfPE President Nancy Harbour presents the honorary lifetime membership award to Thomas Eimmermann.

Where are they now?

Frederick J. Roberts

Until 1997 I enjoyed vigorous good health and a busy academic schedule. But suddenly quadruple bypass surgery required a lifestyle change. Since 1997 a good portion of my time has been devoted to rehab, exercise, health monitoring, medications, and stress management. Thankfully I was able to teach full time for three more years and three subsequent part-time years, officially retiring in 2000.

I greatly enjoyed teaching game theory as general education mathematics, a legislative games course with simulations, and coaching a trophy-winning Model Illinois Government intercollegiate simulation team.

I have also been following the electoral fortunes of former students (e.g., Vice President Joe Biden and ex-congressman P. Kanjorski).

Since retiring, my wife Carlene and I have cut back on other commitments so we can visit old haunts and favorite and/or important places. We have cruised the Maine and North Carolina coasts, the Erie Canal, Route 66, the Lewis and Clark Trail, and the usual Alaska sites. We have railroaded through New England inns, and back and forth across the country to the beautiful cities of the west coast.

We have visited mythic places like Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, New Orleans, San Antonio, Atlanta, Savannah, and Charleston. We usually spend a month, alternating years, in Santa Fe and Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. We are joined by relatives who also enjoy the historic and religious Christmas festivals and concerts of New Mexico. We have also been to Newark; New Castle; Princeton; Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania; and New York City.

Closer to home we see operas, concerts, shows, and ballgames in Chicago and St. Louis. To keep up with politics and life, we rely on the *Panatagraph* and *The New York Times*, but no longer the *Congressional Quarterly* or the *American Political Science Review*.



Fred and Carlene Roberts

The center was named after Professor Emeritus Thomas Eimmermann in April 2005. Eimmermann established the paralegal program at Illinois State in 1975 and in October 2010 was awarded an honorary lifetime membership by the American Association for Paralegal Education (AAfPE).

Only two AAfPE nominees receive this award each year, and only a handful of educators have received it. According to the AAfPE's mission statement the organization promotes quality paralegal education to prepare graduates to perform a significant role in the delivery of legal services.

Eimmermann became a full-time faculty member in 1970, started the paralegal program then directed it, served as the pre-law advisor and served as the Department Chair between 1992 and 1998.

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT...



New faculty

Meghan Leonard joined the Department of Politics and Government as an assistant professor in fall 2010. She received a bachelor's degree in political science from Union College in New York and earned a doctorate and a master's degree in political science from the University of Arizona. Her dissertation was titled "Delegation and Policy Making on State High Courts." Her research focuses on state court legitimacy as well as decision making by justices on state high courts.

Leonard's book chapter, "State Judicial Elections and the New Institutional Legitimacy," which she cowrote with Laura Langer and Andrea Polk, appeared in the 2010 *Oxford Handbook of American Elections and Political Behavior*.

Leonard is a member of the American Political Science Association, the Midwest Political Science Association, and the Southern Political Science Association. She is an avid baseball fan, particularly of the Boston Red Sox.

Public Service and Paralegal Internship Programs continue to grow

Under the leadership of Lori Riverstone-Newell, public service internship director, and Tom McClure, director of legal studies, the department's internship programs were successful in 2010. There were 43 public service internships completed with more than 8,000 hours of service across the state of Illinois and in Washington, D.C. These students were active in three U.S. Senate offices, eight Illinois legislative offices, and several state and local political campaigns.

Additional placements were made with the Towns of Normal and Amboy, City of Peoria, 19th Judicial Court, Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois State's Student Attorney's and Dean of Students Offices, and Lake County Adult Probation Services.

Placements in the nonprofit sector included the DuPage Health Coalition, Planned Parenthood, David Davis Mansion, EKKEKKO, and the Illinois Prairie Community Foundation, among others. Meanwhile 40 paralegal intern students performed more than 4,000 hours of service in such agencies and organizations as Town of Normal, McLean County State's Attorney, McLean County Circuit Court, ISU Student Legal Services, State Farm Insurance, Mitsubishi Motors, and a variety of private law firms.

Professor emeritus inducted into Hall of Fame

George Gordon, professor Emeritus of politics and government, has been inducted into the College of Arts and Sciences' Hall of Fame.



Gordon taught at Illinois State University between 1970 and 2002. Gordon is serving his fourth term on the McLean County Board. He was first elected in 1996. He is also the

chair of the college's Emeritus Faculty Advisory Board. He is also an accomplished author. The tenth edition of his coauthored book titled *Public Administration in America* was published in 2008. It is widely used as a primary text at undergraduate public administration courses all around the country. A dedicated teacher, Gordon still teaches selected courses at Illinois State. He received his B.A. from Penn State University, his M.A. from University of Wisconsin, and his Ph.D. from Syracuse University. Gordon's wife Myra Gordon, executive director of Illinois Prairie Community Foundation, is also inducted to the Hall of Fame. A formal induction ceremony was held on April 9, 2011.

Hibbert R. Roberts Lecture

Nancy Bocskor, professor at George Washington University's Graduate School of Political Management (GSPM), delivered "The Path to Public Service: Winning Strategies from Women Worldwide" at the Hibbert R. Roberts Lecture in Public Policy on September 28.

Bocskor has worked with emerging female political leaders in the Middle East,



From left to right, President Al Bowman, Mrs. Hibbert R. Roberts, Nancy Bocskor, Dean James Payne, and Ali Riaz.

Bolivia, Russia, and Mexico. Bocskor is on the board for Running Start, an organization that encourages young women to run for office, and PoliticsUnder30.org, an organization at George Washington University's

Graduate School of Political Management that prepares young leaders for public service. She is also a senior advisor for the Center for Liberty in the Middle East (CLIME). She is the author of *Go Fish: How to Catch (and Keep) Contributors*.

This annual memorial lecture was organized by the Department of Politics and Government in memory of Hibbert R. Roberts who was the department chair for 22 years.

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Politics and Government hosts 18th annual student conference

The 18th Annual Illinois State University Conference for Students of Political Science was held at the Bone Student Center on Friday, April 23, 2010. The event, organized



Participants enjoy the luncheon and guest speaker during the conference

by the Department of Politics and Government, provided an opportunity for more than 60 graduate and undergraduate students from different locations throughout the country to participate. These political science students participated in 12 panels on a variety of topics. Best papers for graduate and undergraduate students, respectively, were selected by a panel of faculty and students for 2010 conference awards and publication in the fall issue of

the department's online student journal, *Critique*. Gary Klass has been the key organizer of this successful event for many years.

Sheila Curran, Catholic Theological Union, delivered the keynote address, "Globalization of Solidarity: A Challenge for Global Citizenship."

Student papers for the most recent student conferences are available at pol.IllinoisState.edu/current/conferences.

The 2011 conference was held on Friday, April 8, 2011.

Writing workshop for students focuses on conferencing and publishing

BY MICHAELNE COX

A four-hour workshop held October 25, "Writing for the Profession(s)," introduced undergraduate and graduate students to strategies and insights about writing, presenting at conferences, and publishing journal articles. The workshop and accompanying lunch was organized by Michaelene Cox of the Politics and Government Department and was funded by a CTLT grant. Graduate assistants Ted Mason and Jennifer Dodson helped to coordinate the event.

The lineup of guest speakers and topics included Chad Kahl (Milner Library), library resources; Gary Klass (Politics and Government), student political science conference; Kimberly Nance (Graduate School), undergraduate and graduate symposia; Cris Embree (IRB), grant writing and ethics compliance; Claire Lamonica (CTLT), writing research/journal papers; Melanie Goss and Josh Reid (Visor Academic Center), plagiarism, time management, and conferencing; Steve Hunt (School of Communications), public speaking; and Shamira Gelbman, Kam Shapiro, and T.Y. Wang (Politics and Government), how to publish and review journal articles.

Student attendees completed an exit survey and reported much satisfaction with the presentations, content, and usefulness of the workshop. One student(s) commented that "All of the info about conferences was very useful. It has given me enough knowledge to get my feet wet. Without this workshop I probably would not have done so." Another indicated that "(I) learned things I haven't known about the University after attending ISU for three years."

Brown bag seminars continue to flourish

The brown bag seminars, re-established in spring 2009 by Lane Crothers, continue to be a great way for faculty to get together to discuss topics and developments and present their research and ongoing projects. Crothers commented that the seminars have "provided presenters with a great opportunity to get feedback on their projects, and have given the rest of the department insight into the many interesting things their colleagues are exploring." Crothers kicked off the 2010 spring semester with a discussion of his paper, "Get off My Plane!," which looks at depictions of U.S. presidents in popular films.



Noha Shawki leads discussion at a brown bag seminar.

Other spring 2010 presentations included: Yusuf Sarfati's discussion of recent events and developments in Turkey; Amentahru Wahlrab's presentation of a chapter from his dissertation, "Thinking about Nonviolence in the Era of Obama," and Noha Shawki's presentation, "Civil Society Activism and Women's Human Rights: An Analysis of the International Violence Against Women Act (IVAWA)."

Carlos Parodi began the fall 2010 semester with his presentation, "The Lesser of Two Evils: Neoliberal Capitalism and Social Conflict in Peru," followed by Shamira Gebman's presentation of her paper, "Party Organization and the Origins of the Republicans' Belated Southern Strategy." Lane Crothers wrapped up the semester with his presentation, "Making Enemies: Cultural Others in America's Wars of Choice."

College newsletter

The college publishes a weekly electronic newsletter, *CASNews*. It shares the latest achievements of faculty, staff, students, and alumni. If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically, email casnews@IllinoisState.edu.

Faculty honored for service

Two faculty members of the Department of



Politics and Government are the recipients of University Service Awards 2010–2011.

LANE CROTHERS received the University Outstanding Service Award, which honors

faculty members demonstrating a commitment to service as an activity essential to the University mission and to its governance.

NOHA SHAWKI is the recipient of the University Service Initiative Award, which tributes faculty



members who, early in their academic careers, demonstrate excellence in service to the University. Provost Everts congratulated both of the professors and indicated that to

be chosen as an award recipient “is an honor that attests to your abilities and the respect of your colleagues.” They were recognized at the Founder’s Day celebration on February 17, 2011.

ROBERT BRADLEY has been awarded the College of Arts and Sciences’ College Outstanding Service Award for 2010–2011. The award



recognizes faculty members whose service accomplishments are unusually significant and meritorious. Department Chair Ali Riaz commended Bradley for his outstanding service to

the department, the college, and the University saying that “service is an integral part of his commitment to the community” and that “he served with distinction and made a difference.” Bradley described “service, work, and active civic engagement” as an essential part of his professional life.

Bradley was also recognized as a Faculty Star at an Illinois State Men’s Basketball game. His outstanding commitment to civic engagement, extensive work with the media, and numerous efforts to create out-of-classroom learning experiences for students were cited as the basis for the recognition. Faculty Star recognition is a joint venture by the Athletics Department and the Provost’s Office.

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NEWS FROM THE FACULTY...

Faculty scholarly activities

ROBERT BRADLEY received the College of Arts and Sciences’ College Outstanding Service Award. He made a presentation on “Designing a Washington D.C. Civic Education Experience: Tips and Lessons Learned” at the 2010 Conference of the Southern Political Science Association in Atlanta.

MICHAELENE COX published the article, “Silencing the Call to Action: A Bird’s Eye View of Minority Language Media and Political Participation in Eurasia,” in *Transition Studies Review*. She also made a presentation, “The Scholar-in-Training: Writing and Publishing in Political Science,” at the Annual meeting of the Midwest International Studies Association in St. Louis, November 2010. She also received the Mary Catherine Mooney Fellowship from the Boston Athenaeum and a Teaching-Learning Development grant from the CTLT, which allowed her to conduct an extracurricular writing workshop for more than 12 students. She continues to be codirector of the Peace Studies interdisciplinary minor program.

LANE CROTHERS is the recipient of the University Outstanding Service Award and has been named the Arts and Sciences Distinguished Lecturer 2010–2011. He will deliver his lecture in spring 2011. He continues serving as Illinois State University representative to the Faculty Advisory Council of the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

SHAMIRA GELBMAN made three presentations: “To Eduzendium and Beyond: Teaching and Learning Outcomes of an Interest Group Research Project,” at the American Political Science Association’s Annual Meeting, September 2010, Washington, D.C.; “Why Didn’t the Republicans Adopt Racial Conservatism Sooner? The Party Organizational Origins of the Republicans Belated Southern Strategy,” presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association,” January 2010, Atlanta, Georgia; and “Party Organization and the Origins of the Republicans’ Belated Southern Strategy,” presented at the Policy History Conference, June 2010, Columbus, Ohio. She also published “Apartheid,” in *The Routledge Companion to Race and Ethnicity*, and “Executive Branch,” in *Encyclopedia of U.S. Political History*. She also received a Community Engagement Learning Grant from the CTLT that allowed her to lead a group of students to conduct an Election Day exit poll.

GARY KLASS continues to be the project director of ISU/IWU Habitat for Humanity collegiate homes. Under his leadership, students raised more than \$50,000 for each of the last two homes. He is also the associate editor of *Social Science Computer Review*.

NANCY LIND is the economic development section head of the 2010 Midwest Political Science Association annual meeting.

THOMAS E. MCCLURE was a panelist at the Annual Conference of American Association for Paralegal Educators. He was also the recipient of a These Lawyers Care award by the Illinois State Bar Association.

CARLOS PARODI was a guest lecturer at Boston University. His lecture was “The Lesser of Two Evils: Neoliberal Capitalism and Social Conflict in Peru.”

ALI RIAZ published and coedited *Political Islam and Governance in Bangladesh*. In these two volumes he has authored three chapters and coauthored three chapters. He also authored a chapter, “Bangladesh: A Weak State’ with Multiple Security Challenges,” in *South Asia’s Weak States*. He was invited to make presentations at four international conferences held at Johns Hopkins University, Stanford University, the University of Western Sydney (Australia), and BRAC University (Bangladesh), in addition to presenting a paper at Association for Asian Studies Conference. He delivered the keynote speech

at the America Bangladesh Canada Convention held in New York. Riaz has also been appointed the editor-in-chief of the journal *Studies on Asia*, published by the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs (MCAA). Riaz was also regularly interviewed by international media.

LORI RIVERSTONE-NEWELL made the presentation, "Exploring the Effects of Local Governmental Acts of Defiance on State Policy," at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C., September 2010.

YUSUF SARFATI has been appointed the director of the minor in Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies. He coauthored the article, "Natural Allies or Irreconcilable Foes? Reflections on African American-Immigrant Relations," in *Poverty and Race Research Action Council Newsletter Journal*. He also made two presentations: "Politics of Recognition and Headscarf Ban in Current Turkey" at the Conference on Turkish and Eurasian Affairs, St. Mary's College of Maryland, November 2010; and "Politics of State Co-optation in Turkey (1980–1989): Interaction between Ideas and Institutions" at the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association 2010, Chicago, April, 2010. He also chaired three panels.

KAM SHAPIRO published two articles: "Critical Feelings and Pleasurable Associations" in *Theory and Event*, Vol.13 no.4, 2010; and "The Smell of Democracy?" on *The Contemporary Condition*, September 2010. He also made two presentations: "Paying Attention: Cognitive and Sentimental Maps of Global Economy" at the American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, September, 2010, Washington, D.C. and "Sentimental Globalization" at the Western Political Science Association, San Francisco, April, 2010. He was also invited to speak at the Institute for Collaborative Research and Public Humanities, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

NOHA SHAWKI received the University Service Initiative Award. She published two articles: "Issue Frames and the Political Outcomes of Transnational Campaigns: A Comparison of the Jubilee 2000 Movement and the Currency Transaction Tax Campaign," *Global Society* 24, no. 2 (2010): 203-230; and "Political Opportunity Structures and the Outcomes of Transnational Campaigns: A Comparison of Two Transnational Advocacy Networks," *Peace and Change* 35, no. 3 (2010): 381-411. She also received a Teaching-Learning Development Grant from the CTLT, which allowed her to mentor nine Illinois State students participating in a research project at the U.S. Social Forum in Detroit.

T.Y. WANG published an article, "Symbolic Politics, Self-interests and Threat Perceptions: An Analysis of Taiwan Citizens' Views on Cross-Strait Economic Exchanges," in Wei-chin Lee ed. *Taiwan's Politics in the 21st Century: Changes and Challenges* (Singapore: World Scientific Publisher, 2010): 159-184; and two book chapters on Taiwanese politics in 2010. His scholarly commentary, "Reflections on Methodological Totalitarianism," was published in *Chinese Social Sciences Today*, which is distributed by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences of Beijing, China. Wang was also an invited speaker at the Methodology Summer Program sponsored by Academia Sinica, which is the top research institution in Taiwan. He was invited to offer a methodology workshop in Shanghai, China, cosponsored by ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research, Duke University and Shanghai University of Finance and Economics. He also made two invited presentations on cross-Strait relations at the Center for Naval Analyses, Washington, D.C., and at the Center of Arms Control, Disarmament, and International Security, University of Illinois, Champaign.

NANCY LIND received the WEEK 25 Women in Leadership Award. The award is designed to recognize women of all ages who have demonstrated unwavering dedication to the betterment of themselves, their family, their company, and their community at large. The 10th Annual Women in Leadership was held at the Hotel Pere Marquette



on September 9. The nomination was made by an

Nancy Lind, left, with Peg Berry '92 at the WEEK 25 Women in Leadership Ceremony.

alum who wrote about how Lind changed her life by encouraging her to return to school after being a high school dropout. The alum later earned a B.S. from Illinois State and then went on to earn a master's degree. A video clip of Lind performing community service through her volunteer work with local nursing homes can be viewed at www.centralillinoisnewscenter.com/features/business/women-in-leadership/Nancy-Lind-104023219.html.

ERIK RANKIN received the Outstanding



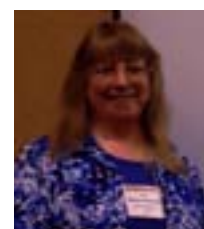
Professor from Panhellenic Association.

The nomination was made by Pi Beta Phi. Rankin also was recognized as the Outstanding Mentor by the Red Tassel

Mortorboard Faculty Staff Appreciation. The nomination was made by Allie Hundley, vice president of Red Tassel.

Valentine speaks at Circus Historical Society's National Convention

Cherie Valentine, the department office manager,



spoke about her family, George & Lorraine Valentine (The Flying Valentinos), and the flying trapeze at the Circus Historical Society's National Convention at Milner Library in July

2010. Valentine also brought a collection of her family's costumes, rigging, and photos from over the years.

Graduate student wins thesis competition

Nicholas Paul Beaty, a recent graduate of the political science master's program, is the winner of the James L. Fisher Outstanding Thesis



Award at the College level for 2010. His thesis, "Political Spirituality or Rethinking the Enlightenment: A Reflection on Michel Foucault's Writings on the Iranian Revolution,"

revisits Foucault's controversial writings on Iran and explains what he meant by "Political Spirituality" through the writings of Iranian scholars at the time of the revolution.

Members of the thesis committee were Committee Chair Julie Webber, Ali Riaz, and Yusuf Sarfati. This is the third year in a row that a department graduate student received the College Thesis Award. Andrea Silva received the 2009 Fisher Thesis Award for the best thesis in social sciences and Mark Tallman received the College Award and University Award in 2008.

The James L. Fisher Outstanding Thesis Competition is designed to promote recognition of graduate theses of the highest quality. An outstanding thesis from a master's degree program is sent to a regional competition sponsored by the Midwest Association of Graduate Schools (MAGS). The regional competition promotes a positive image of graduate education at Illinois State University to its neighboring institutions and provides student recognition.

Hochstatter presents at ISA Midwest Conference

Jason Hochstatter, a graduate student of the Department of Politics and Government, presented "Real Illusions: True Causes of the Conflict between the United States and Political Islam" at International Studies Association Midwest Conference in St. Louis, November 5-7, 2010. He presented the paper in a panel titled "U.S. Struggle with Islam and Democracy" chaired by John Ishiyama of the University of North Texas.

STUDENT NEWS AND ACTIVITIES...

Human rights and democracy in Peru

BY HANNAH TOMLIN

Nearly nine months have passed since my return from Peru, yet memories from the trip still cross my mind almost every day. It has been my most valuable experience as a student at Illinois State, and it has greatly influenced the decisions I've made since. While learning about human rights and democracy were key in the experience, the program is also very much about personal growth. Although we learned a great deal in our courses and while touring the historic sights of Lima and Cusco, the most intimate moments were spent building relationships with people in the communities and settlements where we worked on service projects.

After our first week of classes, we went to a village called Amauta, where residents are victims who escaped the Shining Path. Our first drive into the community was the most shocking moment of the trip for me, as we looked outside to see shacks that were barely standing and surrounded by rubble. I felt a giant knot in my stomach as we rode through the area, realizing this was my first time witnessing serious poverty. We had traveled there to work in a school, which was built in the center of the community. Almost immediately after stepping off the bus, we were greeted by a large group of children who quickly began jumping all over us. We played games with the younger students, and engaged in a very serious discussion with the middle school students about a child's right to work. Everyone in our group was shocked and impressed to learn of their determination to both work and attend school in order to create a better life for themselves and their families.

We also worked at a school in a small village called Huaquicha, where we slept in tents after hiking through the Andes Mountains. There was no electricity, and the residents had to use donkeys to hike up and down the mountain whenever they needed food or other supplies. In this community, we built a bridge over a creek, assembled furniture for the teachers, and put windows inside a classroom. With fewer people, we became more acquainted with these individuals, and they cooked dinner for us by digging a hole in the ground and building a fire. After the sun went down and the air grew cold, we made campfires and shared music and stories with each other.

In Villa El Salvador, our experience was very unique. We visited the grave of Maria Elena Moyano, a prominent human rights activist who was killed by the Shining Path. Before and during the trip, we learned about her life and the impact she made within the human rights movement. We were also able to clean and repaint her statue, and painted a mural for her across the street. At a local school we painted another mural with some middle school students to cover graffiti outside the entry gates. We taught human rights



Above, Katie Culbertson, Hannah Tomlin, Carlos Parodi, and Adrian Marquez helped paint a mural of Maria Elena Moyano in Villa El Salvador. Below, school children in the village Amauta.

lessons and were surprised by the level of knowledge these students already had about the ideas we discussed. When our group went to a university (UNTECS), I was very surprised by the greeting we received from the students and teachers who were cheering and holding up banners for us. Although I felt that college students might view us differently due to America's controversial reputation amongst other countries, they were very eager to communicate with us. We also attended a few artistic performances within the community and participated in a serious dialogue about human rights movements within both Peru and the United States. Everywhere we went, despite any language or cultural barriers, an overwhelming sense of comfort kept following us. It was a feeling that came from the mutual understanding that we are all human beings, equally deserving of respect and dignity.

Politics and Government students participate in Model U.N.

BY NOHA SHAWKI

A group of 12 Illinois State University students, led by faculty advisor Noha Shawki of the Department of Politics and Government, participated in the National Model United Nations (NMUN) conference in New York City, March 29–April 3, 2010. The students



Model United Nations students represented Botswana at this year's National Model United Nations.

attending the conference were Jordan Carey, Blake Coers, Jaime Hecker, Brian Maddox, Kathleen Murphy, Abigail Myers, Adaeze Nnamani, Amar Patel, Vincent Petrosino, Kerry Reitz, Joseph Simon, and Mary Williams.

The Illinois State delegation represented Botswana on six different committees. Students worked in teams of two, and each team represented Botswana on one of the committees and spent spring semester 2010 researching Botswana's position on three economic,

social, humanitarian, or security issues that were debated in the assigned committee at the Model UN Conference. These issues included a variety of global problems, such as climate change/environmental degradation as a source of conflict, the use of information and communication technologies for development, the implementation of a global standard of education, and the impact of HIV/AIDS in Africa.

In addition to attending the committee sessions the Illinois State delegation to the NMUN conference attended a mission briefing at the Permanent Mission of Botswana to the United Nations. Students also had the opportunity to visit museums, parks, and other attractions in New York.

The students who participated in the NMUN program had a wonderful experience. Katy Murphy, a program participant, wrote in her exit paper that the Model UN experience was "extremely educational and valuable." Another participant, Blake Coers, wrote, "Participating in this conference was one of the best experiences that I have had in my time at Illinois State. This conference has not only helped me in understanding international cooperation and the United Nations but also has helped me in developing skills for my future career."

Students attend social studies forum

BY NOHA SHAWKI

Nine students attended the United States Social Forum (USSF) held in Detroit during summer 2010 to participate in the activities of the USSF Documentation and Evaluation team. Noha Shawki of the department led the team of students. The USSF process is intended to develop coalitions and networks among grassroots organizations and social justice activists. Prior to the USSF, students completed readings and wrote reflection pieces about the social forum process.



Noha Shawki (4th from left) with students in Detroit.

Upon their arrival in Detroit, students attended a training session that brought together students and faculty members from a number of different colleges and universities in the United States and Canada who were all part of the Documentation and Evaluation team. The training session allowed members of this team to get to know one another and coordinate the work they completed at the USSF.

During the USSF each team member was able to attend workshops in his/her area of interest as a participant observer. Some of the themes and issues that Illinois State students helped cover included sustainability, gender justice, indigenous issues, labor issues, immigration, and poverty. Following the USSF, students prepared an observation report for each workshop they attended at the USSF and submitted the reports to Jackie Smith of the University of Notre Dame, who heads the Documentation and Evaluation team. The participant observation data collected by students will be used in future research about the social forum process.

Annual telefund

You will be receiving a phone call from a student seeking your donations to the Department of Politics and Government Excellence Fund in April this year.

We would appreciate any help you could earmark for our program. In the last few years your contributions have allowed us to provide student scholarships, student travel awards to professional conferences, and engaging speakers, such as Nakhle Bishara and Noam Chomsky. Please help in any way that you can.

Political science honors and awards

The annual Department of Politics and Government and Pi Sigma Alpha Awards Ceremony was held on April 19, 2010, in the Bone Student Center's Circus Room. The following students and faculty received recognition:

PI SIGMA ALPHA INDUCTEES

Amanda Armitage	Alexandra Hundley
Emily Cassens	Sean McNally
Blake Coers	Natalie Raney
Dylan Ferguson	Kerry Reitz
Taylor Goulbourn	Sara Ross
Allison Graham	Allison Seboldt
Rachael Hoffman	Noreen Smith
Alan Hughes	Mary Allison Williams

CONFERENCE PAPER AWARDS

Undergraduate

First place

Nathan Abell
University of Texas at Austin

Second place

Joshua Bailey
North Central College

Third place

Ashley Hoyer
Missouri State University

Graduate

First place

Cynthia J. Palazzolo
University of Missouri-St. Louis

Second place

Jonathan Day
University of Iowa

Third place

Jessica Bastian
Illinois State University

HIBBERT R. ROBERTS

OUTSTANDING SENIOR AWARD

Jonathan Moore

TOM WILSON INTERNSHIP AWARD

Silvia Castillo

ALICE EBEL

OUTSTANDING GRADUATING SENIOR

Teresa Little

ALICE EBEL AWARD

Taylor Garrison
Josephine Maggio
Natalie Raney
Mary Allison Williams

POLITICAL SCIENCE

MINORITY STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

Paul Kim

THOMAS MORE

SCHOLARSHIP IN POLITICAL THEORY

Benjamin Hanrahan

Mock Trial Team hosts Ninth Invitational Tournament

BY THOMAS McCLURE

The Illinois State University mock trial team hosted its annual tournament at the McLean County Law and Justice Center, November 5–7. Schools from Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, and South Dakota participated. Illinois State won two individual awards at the tournament—Megan Helleesen was honored with the Outstanding Attorney Award and Krystal Weigl was recognized with the Outstanding Witness Award.

On October 23 the mock trial team competed at Quincy University where squad 1263 placed fifth in a field of 16 teams. Both squads placed within the top five teams at the Lewis University Invitational Tournament held November 13–14. Squad 1263 took sixth place and squad 1264 placed seventh at the St. Francis University Invitational Tournament held in Joliet, December 4–5.

Tom McClure, educator coach of the team, remarked, “Although our team is young, we are in the midst of another successful season. We are hopeful that we will be able to send two squads to the national tournament for the third year in a row.”

Quincy University presented Outstanding Attorney Awards to Tassie Sotiropoulos, Krystal Weigl, and Megan Helleesen. Kristina Nikolic was recognized with the Outstanding Witness honor. At the Lewis University Invitational, Kristina Nikolic was presented an Outstanding Witness Award, and Krystal Weigl was honored with an Outstanding Attorney Award. Kristina Nikolic won an Outstanding Attorney Award at the St. Francis Tournament.

In mock trial competition, students are given copies of court documents and witness statements from a hypothetical case. Team members then play the roles of lawyers and witnesses. Students playing the roles of lawyers are judged on the basis of their opening statements, closing arguments, and their direct and cross-examinations of the witnesses. Students playing witness roles are judged on the basis of their command of the facts of the case and their credibility in the role. The mock trial program, established at Illinois State in 1987 by Tom Eimmermann and Illinois Appellate Court Judge James Knecht, has provided close to 300 Illinois State students with the opportunity to develop an understanding of what an attorney does in court, develop their advocacy skills, and establish contacts that help build their careers.



Pre-Law Awards Banquet

The Illinois State Attorneys Advisory Board held its 10th annual Pre-Law Awards Banquet

on April 24, 2010. Students, parents, faculty, staff, and alumni were welcomed to the event by Board Chair David Abbey '73. Mark Hassakis, incoming president of the Illinois State Bar Association and the evening's keynote speaker, was introduced by Vice Chair Marc Loro '74.

This year's student award winners included Sara Ross



From left to right, Tom McClure, Rachel Feser, and Robert Bradley.

(Mock Trial Outstanding Witness Award), Michael Ditore (Michael A. Hall Mock Trial Outstanding Attorney Award), Thomas J. Stout (Barry S. Tolchin Mock Trial Leadership Award), Tina Van Steenberg (Mock Trial Distinguished Service Award), Rachel Feser (Tom Eimmermann Outstanding Pre-Law Student Award), and Corine Weiler (Carl Kasten Pre-Law Leadership Award).

The ISU Attorneys Advisory Board is a group of more than 70 attorney alumni who support the University's pre-law program through advising, mentoring, and by providing financial support.

Mock Trial Program presents its first high school workshop

On October 30 the department's Mock Trial Program organized a one-day workshop attended by 45 high school students. The students were members of mock trial teams representing five high schools: Chatham Glenwood, Prairie Central, Normal Community, Normal Community West, and Salem Community.



Tom McClure, director of legal studies, speaks to high school mock trial workshop participants.

The workshop provided students with fundamental knowledge and practical skills. The Illinois State University attorney coaches, coaching staff, and veteran collegiate competitors spent the morning with students in educational sessions to teach skills, demonstrate best practices, and offer examples. In the afternoon students were given the opportunity to apply skills gained that morning to a case problem as they developed direct and cross-examinations with Illinois State Mock Trial Team competitors.

"The feedback we received from the high school participants and the four coaches in attendance was extremely positive. This is a credit to skill and dedication of our coaching staff and participants of our teams," stated Tom McClure, director of legal studies. The educational sessions were presented by attorney coaches Scott Kording and Adam Ghrist, as well as graduate assistant Tina VanSteenbergen.

Pre-law Student Conference

BY ROBERT BRADLEY

The fifth annual Illinois State University Pre-Law Student Conference was held in September and was jointly sponsored by the Illinois State Law Club and the Thomas Eimmermann Pre-law Advisement Center. Instead of having formal sessions, the conference was designed to be a law school fair with representatives from various law schools and LSAT prep services in attendance. Representatives from the law schools that Illinois

Continued on next page

FRANK M. AND HERMINA R. GIORDANO SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Leonie Kruger

WALTER S.G. KOHN AWARD

Blake Coers

GEORGE J. GORDON SCHOLARSHIP IN U.S. PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Grant Anderson

Tyler Wiggs

FIELD AWARDS

Comparative government/international relations

Alana McGinty

American government

Scott Prestonz

Public administration

Dylan Ferguson

OUTSTANDING LEGAL STUDIES STUDENT

Rachel Feser

GRADUATE STUDENT SERVICE AWARD

Adrian Marquez

Justin Thompson

OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD

Lucinda Miller

LEADERSHIP RECOGNITION

Michael Cross

Katherine Culbertson

Allison Graham

Molly Keane

Blair Kelly

Jacqueline Krug

David Marquis

Jason Nippa

Amar Patel

Julie Wachtenheim

Robin Weissman

PI SIGMA ALPHA

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Erik Rankin

Legal Studies student inducted into National Honor Society

In August 2010 Rachel Lynn Feser was inducted into Lambda Epsilon Chi (LEX). LEX is a prestigious national honor society that recognizes paralegal students who have exhibited academic excellence. In order to achieve this distinction, students must have an overall grade point average of at least 3.5. Rachel Lynn Feser, a politics and government major and legal studies minor, graduated summa cum laude in May 2010. She is a first-year law student at St. Louis University.

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Continued on next page

Call to alumni

The Department of Politics and Government is actively seeking to help our recent graduates find internships and professional careers. Many of you are now in positions to help us. If you have any opportunities for our graduating seniors or graduate students, please send the announcements to Lori Riverstone-Newell at lrivers@IllinoisState.edu. We appreciate any help you can give us as the job market is becoming increasingly tighter.

Pre-Law student conference, continued from page 11

State students most frequently apply were invited to attend the fair, as well as representatives from Kaplan test services and other LSAT prep companies.

At the conference a raffle was conducted with the law schools, prep companies, and ISU Pre-law fund providing prizes for the raffle. More than 50 prizes were given away ranging from free admission to the Illinois State LSAT Prep Course to books about law school and clothing items. The number of law schools that sent representatives to the conference was an all-time high, as was the number of student attendees.

Steve Koca, a student volunteer staffer at the Thomas Eimermann Pre-law Advisement Center, helped plan and run the conference. His efforts were a success. The conference was organized by Robert Bradley and is the last one that he will be directly involved with.



Students talk to law school representatives at the 2010 Illinois State Pre-law Student Conference.

Law Club

BY ROBERT BRADLEY

Jesse Guth and Bill Calbow serve as the copresidents of Law Club. Law Club assisted in running the Prelaw Student Conference and is planning the annual Chicago Law School tour. This year there are more paid members of Law Club than ever before. The club holds regular bimonthly meetings. At the meetings, various speakers have given presentations on different types of legal practice, financing a law school education, details about the LSAT, and the realities of attending law school. Future events will include holding oral arguments by an Illinois Appellate Court on campus and a presentation by the Chief Justice of the Illinois Supreme Court. Robert Bradley is the advisor of Law Club until May 2011.

Advisement center prepares students for the next step

The Thomas Eimermann Pre-Law Advisement Center continues to be a resource for any student or alum interested in going to law school. The center acquired more LSAT preparation materials and more books on applying to law school and the nature of the practice of law so that prelaw students can get a more accurate sense of what lawyers do and what it takes to become a lawyer. Also the center updated some of its equipment with the acquisition of a newer computer and a new printer-scanner-fax machine. The center continues to offer an LSAT PrepCourse during the fall and spring semesters. This semester five student volunteers, ranging from a first-year student to several seniors, are staffing the center. The spring 2011 semester will be the final semester where Robert Bradley serves as the director of the center. The center soon will be commemorating its 10th anniversary of its origin from Robert Bradley's and Brandi Figari's time and effort. Figari was then an undergraduate political science major and is now a successful attorney in San Francisco.

Alumni spotlight

Barbara Figari received a bachelor of arts in politics and government, magna cum laude, from Illinois State University in 2004. Figari is a graduate of the University of Minnesota Law School in Minneapolis, where she received her juris doctor, cum laude,



with a concentration in labor and employment law in May 2007. Figari practices law in San Francisco, where she founded her own firm in September 2008.

In May 2009 the State Bar Board of Governors appointed Figari to serve as an At-Large Representative on the Board of the California Young Lawyers Association. Figari is also a member of the San Francisco Delegation to the California State Bar Conference of Delegates, the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association (SFTLA), the San Francisco Bar Association (BASf), and serves on the Executive Committees of both the Women's Caucus and the New Lawyers' Division of the San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association.

Figari presented a lecture on employment cases at the 2010 State Bar of California Annual Meeting and cochaired a panel for the SFTLA Women's Caucus on the Art of Negotiation in October 2009. Figari has also been interviewed and featured by *The Recorder*, a legal newspaper, regarding trends in age discrimination cases. Figari was profiled in the November 2009 California Employment Lawyers Association Bulletin as a "rising star."

Figari's experience as an attorney includes acting as trial counsel for two employment trials in 2010, both of which resulted in successful verdicts. She second-chaired a five-week trial beginning in March 2010 representing a plaintiff who brought an age discrimination action against his former employer, Sears, Roebuck & Co.

In June 2010 Figari acted as co-lead counsel in a five-week trial, representing a nurse who brought a whistleblower action against her former employer, ValleyCare Medical Center. This trial resulted in a verdict of \$344,168, and was featured in the *San Francisco Chronicle* and the *Wall Street Journal*. Figari also settled a statewide wage and hour class action for \$2.1 million.

Alum elected to U.S. Congress



Adam Kinzinger, alum of the Department of Politics and Government, is elected to the U.S. House of Representatives from Illinois' 11th congressional district. Kinzinger graduated from Illinois State University in 2000. He is a member of the Republican Party. A native of Bloomington, Kinzinger served as a County Board member in McLean County from 1998 to 2003. In 2003 he joined the United States Air Force.

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The Stevenson Center celebrates 50 years of Peace Corps service

BY KATIE BREI



R. Sargent Shriver

The Peace Corps gave me the most memorable, continuing, morally unblemished, and uncompromised chance ever given any American to serve his country, his countrymen, and his fellow human beings worldwide, simultaneously, and at the grassroots level with the poor everywhere.”

This quote, by R. Sargent Shriver from *To Touch The World: The Peace Corps Experience*, encompasses the passion and level of dedication the

Peace Corps was built upon, and that still remains today.

Fifty years have passed since President John F. Kennedy signed Executive Order 10924, formally establishing the Peace Corps and appointed Shriver as the first director. Around three decades later, with Bob Hunt’s wisdom, Illinois State University’s Political Science Graduate Program began its affiliation with the Peace Corps.

In 1994 the Peace Corps Fellows Program, with a focus on com-

munity and economic development, was established as a joint program of Illinois State University and Western Illinois University. At that time, included in the program were applied economics and political science students who had previously served in the Peace Corps. The mission of this program was to combine students’ former overseas experience with academic and practical training for the benefit of Illinois communities through education or community services.

In 1996 the program became an institutionalized unit within Illinois State. Mike Kelleher, and later Jim Nelson, were hired as staff members for the Stevenson Center.

A formal relationship began with the Peace Corps Master’s International Program in 1998. The program couples a master’s degree in applied economics, political science, and, as of 2000, sociology with Peace Corps service. The Master’s International Program is designed to educate, guide, and prepare graduate students for their service.

Since the beginning of its relationship with the Peace Corps, the now named Stevenson Center has graduated 56 Peace Corps Fellows and 34 Peace Corps Master’s International students. Political Science majors account for 37 and 24 of these students, respectively. Alumni work overseas and domestically in nonprofits, government agencies, and large NGOs.

This year the Stevenson Center is celebrating 50 years of Peace Corps service and the 17 years of its affiliation with the Peace Corps. The center hopes to carry forward and apply the inspiration left to us by R. Sargent Shriver.

Campbell designated CAS Executive in Residence 2010

Thomas J. Campbell ’75, M.A. ’83, served as the College of Arts and Sciences’ third executive in residence on October 6 and 7, 2010. Campbell is the managing partner of Gallop, Johnson and Neuman



L.C. in St. Louis. He delivered a talk to pre-law students and met with faculty members in the Department of Politics and Government. The Executive in Residence program provides an opportunity to showcase the college’s departments and schools and for the executives in

residence to share their professional experiences with faculty, students, and residents of Bloomington-Normal.

Campbell earned his J.D. from the Washington University School of Law in St. Louis. Campbell is a member of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, The Missouri Bar, The District of Columbia Bar, Illinois State Bar Association, and the American Bar Association. Before practicing law, Campbell served in state government.

Alumni accomplishments

MICHAEL L. LESKO ’74 is the government contracts manager in Caterpillar Inc.’s Defense and Federal Products group. He holds a B.S. degree from Illinois State University and an M.S. in acquisition and contract management from the Florida Institute of Technology. He holds three professional certifications in various logistics disciplines and is a registered practitioner before the Federal Maritime Administration and Maritime Subsidy Board. Lesko is also a former part-time instructor at Illinois Central College.

THOMAS M. HENRY ’75 is a practicing attorney in the state of Illinois and is the first downstate lawyer to become Board Certified by the National Board of Legal Specialty Certification (NBLSC) in Social Security Disability Advocacy and Law. His law office, the Elder Law & Social Security Disability Center, is the only one that has a pastor on staff to help with the needs of the disabled clientele.

RICARDO MEZA ’86 is the new executive inspector general of the state of Illinois. Appointed by the governor, the Office of Executive Inspector General (OEIG) has a \$6.9 million budget and a staff of more than 60 individuals. Meza is in charge of investigating such wrong doings as Ethics Acts violations and state government misconduct, as well as providing and coordinating ethics training for all state employees under its jurisdiction.

A graduate of John Marshall Law School, Meza served as an assistant United States attorney before becoming the Midwest regional counsel for the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund (MALDEF).

THERESA MILLER DELIN '88, M.S. '90 has been named acting director of University Housing, Division of Student Affairs, at Northwestern University. She will oversee all graduate and undergraduate housing operations, as well as budget and project planning, which total more than \$65 million annually. Delin has been at Northwestern University since November 2000, starting as a senior budget analyst in the Office of Budget Planning, Analysis and Allocation. Prior to joining Northwestern, Delin was director of capital programs in the City of Chicago's Office of Budget and Management.

ANTHONY WALESBY '91 is associate vice provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs and senior director of the Office of Institutional Equity at the University of Michigan. Walesby was in a similar role at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Prior to joining higher education, Walesby served as a federal investigator for the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

STEVEN BRANDSTEDT '99 is an associate attorney at the law firm of Litchfiel Cavo in Chicago, where he also resides. He practices in the areas of insurance and commercial litigation. He is also an adjunct professor of legal writing at DePaul University College of Law, where he instructs students in how to draft trial and appellate briefs.

JAMES GALCO '00 attained his juris doctor in 2003 from The Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing, Michigan. He worked in Wealth Management Services at Park National Bank from 2000–2009, concentrating on the management, preservation, and growth of wealth through estate and tax planning methodology. He is finalizing an LL.M. in Taxation (master of laws in taxation) from John Marshall Law School in Chicago (expected May 2010) with a focus in estate and financial planning/taxation of business entities. He is employed by The Private Client Reserve at U.S. Bank, advising on the tax ramifications and implications of financial and estate plans of clients throughout the U.S.

MIA PORTER '02 graduated from the Thomas M. Cooley Law School in September 2006 and is a member of the Trial Lawyers of America. Porter resides in Lansing, Michigan, working as contractor for the state of Michigan. Porter is in the process of applying for membership in the Illinois Bar Association.

STEVEN WELCH '02 is the program manager of the Detailee Affairs Program with the Office of Operations Coordination and Planning, Department of Homeland Security. He administers a program valued at nearly \$20 million and oversees more than 200 detailees affiliated with state, local, and federal stakeholders. Welch resides in Northern Virginia.

If you are interested in being invited back to campus as a distinguished alum, please send current vitae to T.Y. Wang at tywang@IllinoisState.edu.

The department celebrates Homecoming

The Department of Politics and Government celebrated Homecoming 2010 on October 15 by inviting several distinguished alums to campus. Paula Orlando, M.A. '07; Ian Schwab, M.A. '07;



Marty Vanags spoke to faculty and students during alumni day.

Marty Vanags '84; and Larry Williams, M.A. '79; visited the department and joined the luncheon after the college social event in the morning.

Orlando, a manager of TRACE International in Washington D.C., said, "I am glad to be back to visit the department and the faculty."

Vanags, the chief executive officer of the Economic Development Council of the Bloomington-Normal Area, made a presentation to faculty and students. The title of his talk was "What to do with a Political Science Degree?"

Williams, an established State Farm agent based in Chicago, attended the Foundation Board meeting to discuss various financial matters concerning the University.

The department also sponsored a tailgating tent on October 16. A number of alumni and faculty visited the tent.



Above, from left to right, Ali Riaz, Larry Williams, Paula Orlando, Ian Schwab, George Gordon, and T.Y. Wang. Below, from left to right, Ben Hansen, Bob Hansen, Ali Riaz, George Gordon, and Erik Rankin.

Send us your latest news

The department would love to hear your latest news. Fill out the form below and mail it to Illinois State University, Department of Politics and Government, Political Science News & Views, Campus Box 4600, Normal, IL 61790-4600; fax it to (309) 438-7638; or visit PoliticsAndGovernment.ilstu.edu/alumni/update.shtml.

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Graduation year(s) and degree(s)

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