A Few Words from the Chair  
By Dr. Ross Burkhart

Greetings! It is my pleasure to welcome you to this newsletter. As you will read, we have much to be proud of in our department. Our faculty and staff continue to excel at teaching, research and service, as well as creating a professional environment for our students. And our students continue to achieve great things. Two of them, Nicolás Diaz and Pankhuree Dube, were named Top Ten Scholars, the highest honor that students can receive at Boise State. In the past five years, Political Science has had five students named Top Ten Scholars, tied with Biology and Psychology for the most of any department on campus. In addition, four graduating students were inducted into the Founders’ Leadership Society. Every year since its inception in 2003, Political Science students have been named as Society members. We are extremely proud of our student accomplishments.

Our faculty have written books and articles on many subjects this past year, from the courts (Dr. Lori Hausegger’s new book entitled Canadian Courts: Law, Politics and Process) to international relations (Dr. Greg Raymond’s revised edition of The Global Future) to comparative politics (Dr. Brian Wampler’s paperback edition of his book on participatory budgeting in Brazil is due out soon). We are also pleased that Dr. Deniz Erkmen will join us from the University of Michigan as a special lecturer in 2009-2010 and teach courses in comparative politics and Middle East politics.

We had a significant transition in staff this past year. Tricia Trofast, who put together the first edition of this newsletter in 1989, took a new position on campus in the Philosophy Department. We miss Tricia’s professionalism, wit and grace, but we are very fortunate to have Sarah Cuellar as our administrative assistant. Sarah has organized this newsletter. Sarah is awesome!

We additionally thank our adjunct instructors who allow us to diversify our curriculum offerings. Our 2008-2009 adjunct instructors were Bobby Schneider, Carole Nemnich, Steve Shaw, Bill Overton, Stewart Gardner, Lane Packwood, Christopher Innes, John Keenan, Steve Wilson, and Robert Ross.

I hope you enjoy reading about the accomplishments of our department and its students.

SSPA Says Goodbye to Long Time Friend  
By Dr. Richard Kinney

Karen Kelsch passed away last November after an extended illness. She had served in the College of Health Sciences from 1981 until 1985, when she became the administrative assistant for the newly established College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs, a position she remained in for over twenty years. In time, she became a wealth of information about the college and the university in general. Unknown to most of us, Karen and her husband Jim worked briefly in the U.S. Senate during the late-1950s and early-1960s. In fact, they first met on an elevator when she was on the staff of Sen. Gale McGee of Wyoming and Jim worked in a position he got through Sen. Frank Church of Idaho.
Regan Charlton Named Speech and Debate All-American, Earns Superior Awards at National Tournament

Regan Charlton represented the BSU Talking Broncos speech and debate team very well at the biannual Pi Kappa Delta National Speech and Debate tournament, which was hosted this year by Louisiana State University Shreveport. Regan earned several Pi Kappa Delta All American Honors: a Superior Award in Informative Speaking as well as a Superior Award in International Public Debate. She also earned an Excellent Award in Communication Analysis. With Regan’s help, the Boise State Speech and Debate Team finished in second place in overall sweepstakes at the national tournament, which was held March 19-21.

In addition to her tournament awards, Regan was also named a Speech and Debate All-American, one of only ten named each year. Two of her teammates, Ben Bishop & Kate Henry, were also named All-Americans. Junior and Seniors are eligible to apply for the honor, and are judged on accomplishments in competition, academic achievement, and community service.

Political Science Student and Organization Recognized at 2009 Campus Awards Ceremony

Nicolás Diaz was awarded the Staff Member of the Year from the Volunteer Services Board. His face expressed exactly his verbal reaction to the award: "So excited." His favorite service project was the Spring Break Alternative, where students traveled to New Orleans for Spring Break to remodel a school that was torn down by Hurricane Katrina.

The Political Science Association was named Academic/Professional Organization of the Year by BSU student activities. A plaque honoring their accomplishment is now hanging in the Political Science Department’s main office. Stop by and see it!

Dean’s List

Congratulations to the following students for outstanding achievement and inclusion on the Dean’s List.

Spring 2008

- Duni Al-jelawi
- Brian Amberg
- Jennifer Benavente
- Annelise Bertelson
- Gracia Bingham
- Kylie Bogess
- Daniel Brennan
- Michiko Burrows
- Madison Campbell
- Sorina Cannon
- Jonathan Carkin

Top Ten Scholars

Top Ten Scholars are chosen from among the top 10 percent of Boise State’s graduating class each year. They are selected based on academic performance, recommendation from college deans and extracurricular and research activities. Each student also honors a Boise State professor who was particularly influential to his or her success.

Nicolás Diaz, Argentina, is a political science and Spanish major, with a minor in Japanese studies. His interest in international socio-economic factors, in addition to his upbringing in Argentina, have played heavily into his research and vocational pursuits. Nicolás has presented work at Clinton Global Initiative University and the International Studies Association—West Annual Conference. Since starting his educational career at BSU, he has actively participated in several campus organizations, including serving as vice-president of the Boise State Honor Student Association, treasurer of both Pi Sigma Alpha and Gamma Beta Phi, and is president of the Boise State Japan Club. Other pursuits have included an internship at the Ada County Courthouse, where he worked with the small claims and interpreter’s department, as well as volunteer work with UNICEF, Boise State Volunteer Services Board, and Boise State Spring Break Alternative. Nicolás plans to attend graduate school where he would like to specialize in Latin American and Asian Relations.

Pankhuree Dube, New Delhi, India, is a double major in history and political science with a minor in Latin American studies. She is fluent in Spanish, studied Mandarin, and has native fluency in Hindi. Her volunteer work includes working as a Spanish-speaking TA for children of migrant workers in the Boise State High School Equivalency Program. She served two years as president of Phi Alpha Theta History Honors Society, for which she organized “Reel vs. Real” events bringing faculty and students together. Pankhuree’s honors thesis focuses on indigenous mobilization in India and Mexico. Her project for graduate research on Oaxaca-central India was well received by Oaxacan, American, and South Asian academics at the 2009 NCCLA Conference. Last summer, she was chosen to participate in a workshop on global sustainability at UC-Berkley. That same year, her panel proposal was accepted at the ISA-West Conference in San Francisco. Pankhuree plans to pursue a Ph.D. and teach at the university level.

Fall 2008

Justine Cook
Peter Cook
Maya Cutler
Monica Cutler
Stoddard Davenport
Timothy de Raadt
Nicolás Diaz
Taylor Dockins
Jeffrey Dolifka
Riley Egan
Alyssa Enbysk
Avery Epperly
George Fenton
Jenny Gallegos
Cassandra Ganger
Tyler Gaylord
Mark Gehrke
Kristina Gillespie
Siobhan Gilmartin
Meagan Glorfield
Bradley Glover
Maxwell Grimes-Logue
Erin Grimes-Logue
Casey Hagan
Joshua Hansen
Derrick Harris
Wayne Harris
Mikel Hautzinger
J Matthew Haws
Kate Henry
Samantha Hobday
Breanne Holaday
Claire Ivins
Silvino Jimenez
Charles Johnson
Jerrad Johnson
Ryan Jones
Rebecca Joslin
Dustin Kamerman
Brian Keber
Jaime Kerwin
Kelly Knapp
John Kucera
Michael Law
Roman Lewis
Aaron Mabey
Jana Mackova
Erica Madrid
Jessica Martin
Kelsey Martindale
Matthew Maurer
Matthew May
Molly May
Lorin McArthur
Shannon Miller
Serena Montoya
Angela Nelson
Michael Olsen
Christopher Owens
Colbert Pepper
Jason Perez
Cherina Perry
Nicholas Petersen
Daniel Pew
Alex Price
Brindee Probst
Jillian Rasmussen
Eric Richardson
Christine Ritchie
Brian Sandifer
Alexander Satterlee
Christian Savage
Stephanie Schneider
Shelby Scott
Amy Shearman
Tori Shockey
Chrysal Shoup
Brandon Storms
Mark Suderman
Joseph Tamasonis
Andrew Thomas
Esther Tolson
Nodira Turaeva
Cassie Vander Meer
Brandie Vanorder
Brandon Walker
Kimberly Waller
Charles Walsh
Jacob Westerfield
Theodore Wills
Ann Wilson
Shephany Wright

Dunia Al-Jelawi
Skyler Albertson
Benjamin Allen
Ahmed Amlani
Dayna Anderson
Kari Anderson
Robyn Austin
Jessica Barrie
Joel Beesley
Gracia Bingham
Emily Boswell
Nicholas Brown
Alanna Buck
Marianna Budnikova
Phillip Byrd
Jonathan Carkin
Monica Carreon
Anthony Carter-Smith
Regan Charlton
Moriah Christianson
Joshua Cleaver

BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY
Founders Leadership Society

The Founders Leadership Society was established to recognize graduating students for their outstanding leadership involvement, both on campus and in the community. Induction into the prestigious society will provide students with opportunities to mentor other students and to participate in meaningful activities to enhance their personal and professional leadership growth beyond graduation. Criteria for the award include leadership skills, commitment to service, an appreciation for diversity and academic achievement. These students were among sixteen BSU students inducted into the Society in 2009.

2009 Founders Leadership Society Graduates

Scholarships

Each year the Department of Political Science awards scholarships to full time political science majors. In addition to the general political science scholarships, the Department of Political Science offers the following special scholarships:

The Frank Church Scholarship is awarded to a student with a demonstrated record of community service and the potential for leadership in the public sector.

The Dr. John Keiser Public Affairs Scholarship is awarded to a sophomore, junior, or senior student who has a minimum 3.00 grade-point average that has demonstrated involvement in community service and/or public affairs.

The Avery Peterson Scholarship is awarded to a student with an International Relations emphasis in Political Science and an interest in Foreign Service. Mr. Peterson was a Foreign Service Officer and taught for the department in the 1970s.

The Dr. Willard Overgaard Scholarship is awarded to student who is a member of the Xi Chi Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society. Dr. Overgaard was a former chair of the department and a professor of public law before his retirement.

The Dr. Stephanie Witt Political Science Scholarship, when endowed, will be awarded to a student who has a minimum 3.00 grade-point average.

Dr. Stephanie Witt is a former chair of the Department and currently serves as Director of Policy Center for the Department of Public Policy and Administration.

Application information is available each January at the department’s office and website. Later in the spring, the department’s scholarship committee reviews the applications and makes recommendations to the department chair on who should receive scholarships.

A ceremony is held at the beginning of the fall semester to honor the recipients. The department considers these scholarships an excellent opportunity to recognize our students’ academic excellence, achievements, and other contributions.
The following students were recipients of scholarships for the 2008-2009 Academic Year:

Benjamin Allen, Political Science/English
Robyn Austin
Gracie Bingham
Jonathan Carkin
Regan Charlton
Maya Cutler
Nicolás Díaz, Frank Church Public Service
Pankhuree Dube, Avery F. Peterson Scholarship
Theodore Kielley, Canadian Studies
Kelly Knapp
Matthew Maurer, Frank Church Public Service
Fernando Mejia, Dr. John Keiser Public Affairs
Johali Muzaliwa, Dr. Stephanie Witt Scholarship

AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION 2008-2009 MINORITY FELLOWS

Two of the eight students picked from a national pool for the APSA’s 2008-2009 Minority Fellows graduated from BSU in 2008 with degrees in Political Science. Geneva Román earned her BA in international relations with an honors citation. Simon Tu earned a BA in political science and was a member of Pi Sigma Alpha.

Political Science Library Liaison Retires
by Richard Kinney

Last November, Norris “Nick” Bazemore retired from the Albertson’s Library. During his service, he was the department’s representative at the Library. He supported political science in many ways. He solicited and processed requests from the department to buy books and other materials. He discussed library holdings and other resources with applicants interviewing for faculty positions and members of accreditation teams. Just before he left, Dr. Ross Burkhart presented Nick with a certificate of appreciation from the department. Nick has been one of many people on campus who support our faculty, staff, and students in important ways. We wish Nick the very best in his future adventures.

2008-2009 Scholarship Recipients
L-R Front Row: Christina Perry, Jonathan Carkin, Erik Person, Gracie Bingham, Nicolas Diaz
L-R Back Row: Matthew Maurer, Robyn Austin, Kelly Knapp, Brindee Probst, Regan Charlton, Nolan Wittrock, Pankhuree Dube, Fernando Mejia, Benjamin Allen.
Not Pictured: Maya Cutler, Johali Muzaliwa

Christina Perry
Erik Person
Brindee Probst
Nolan Wittrock, Dr. Willard M. Overgaard Political Science Scholarship
What motivated you to seek out internships while completing your Political Science degree?
Passion for the cause! I would not recommend that anyone pursue an internship with an organization they do not strongly support. That would be like taking a job where you hate the work and the pay is terrible. My first internship was with Idaho for Obama. I knew I wanted to dedicate a lot of my time to the Obama campaign, but balancing that with full-time classes and my personal life would have been tough. So, I decided to combine school and my volunteering efforts into a 6-credit internship.

Please describe the organizations you worked for and your main responsibilities:
I completed two internships while at BSU. The first was with Idaho for Obama, where I served as the State Coordinator of Students. That meant I was responsible for developing chapters of Students for Barack Obama (SFBO) at every university in Idaho, as well as implementing a high-school outreach program. This was a wonderful opportunity in that it forced me to be really creative and indoctrinated me into the world of grassroots field organizing. The second was an internship with state Senator (then Representative) Nicole LeFavour during the 2008 legislative session. During my time in the legislature, I learned something new every day. I think it is impossible to grasp how the Idaho legislature functions without spending some time there. All of the nuanced relationships, the committee hearings, the lobbyists...it really is a construction zone of sorts, except everyone has a different set of blueprints. I spent my time researching legislation, drafting bill language, writing press releases and contacting constituents.

What skills did you learn during your internship that you could not have learned in a regular classroom setting?
Internships are a hands-on way to learn, excellent for students who learn better through “doing” than through reading a text book. Most future employers will give an internship as much weight as they would any previous work experience, so you will come out of college with a degree and a strong resume. Do not miss the opportunity to network! The people you meet during an internship are potential employers, references, and act as your ears on the ground when it comes to hearing about upcoming job openings.

Did the position help you get a job before or after graduation?
Absolutely. I was hired as the Idaho Field Director of Obama for America in July of 2008, two months after graduating. During the application process, the national campaign looked at my dedication to the candidate, my organizing capability in Idaho and my knowledge of campaign issues. Without a doubt, my internship with Idaho for Obama opened that window for me.

As Election Day 2008 approached, I began looking for post-campaign employment. I applied for a position in Public Affairs with Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest (formerly Planned Parenthood of Idaho). I was hired on December 1st, primarily due to my experience with both field organizing and the Idaho legislature.

Where are you currently employed? What are your main responsibilities?
I am currently employed with Planned Parenthood and I’m enjoying the diverse requirements of the position. For the past four months, I have been immersed in legislative activities, fighting for affordable, accessible, reproductive health care in Idaho. As the session winds down, my role shifts to field operations; health fairs, volunteer recruitment, community events and even some electoral work for 2010...it’s never too early!

What are your career goals five years from now?
I hope to continue my career in Public Affairs. I was also recently accepted into the Department of Communication graduate program at Boise State. I look forward to combining my passion for progressive policy with the study of communication as it relates to the changing face of the American political campaign.

Do you have any advice for graduating Political Science majors as they enter the job market?
Hang in there! It’s a tough time to be a new grad, but the jobs are still out there. Join a Young Professionals organization and network like crazy. If you haven’t done an internship yet, it’s not too late. Being willing to do some unpaid work, even part-time, may be just the way to get your foot in the door.
Tricia Trofast Moves to Philosophy
By Dr. John Freemuth

After 20 years with the Political Science Department, Tricia Trofast transferred to the Philosophy Department in September of 2008. We will miss her warmth and humor around the office. Dr. Freemuth offered these words about Tricia’s impact on the Department: Tricia kept us afloat. She was able to navigate the rapids of the computer system, all with a smile on her face. She also kept Dr.’s Donaghue and Skillern from burning down the department. Things were always cheerful and pretty mellow when she was around. She is missed!

Secondary Education Student helps with Accreditation Activities
By Dr. Richard Kinney

This February, political science secondary education major Stephany Wright represented the Department of Political Science and its social science-secondary education program at a poster session during a national and state accreditation visit. She displayed lesson plans and other class materials she has used in her student teaching internship experience. She discussed them with the accreditation visitors who stopped by her display.

Recently, she explained why she is in our secondary education program. “I became interested in teaching because I love our American Government and the only way to preserve our Republic is to ensure that we have educated citizens. So I have made this my mission in life. Besides I really love the kids. I also owe everything that I have become to the public schools system. Without teachers who have touched my life I cannot say where I would have ended up. It is my turn to give back.”
“Prioritizing People in a Globalizing World”

Four political science students represented Boise State University at the International Studies Association annual meeting in San Francisco September 26th and 27th, 2008. The panel’s topic of focus was “Sustaining People, Sustaining Development.” Each student presented their research to an audience of International Relations scholars. The panel’s Chair and Discussant was Rebecca Glazier of the University of California, Santa Barbara. She offered feedback and responses to the student’s work.

Nicolás Diaz presented the paper “Chinese Agricultural Need: Argentina and Brazil’s Opportunity.”

Hanako Wakatsuki’s paper was titled “The Pan-American Internment of People of Japanese Ancestry in Canada, Peru, and the United States.”

Anjuli Waybright presented a paper entitled “Humanitarian Aid through Empowerment: New Approaches for the Developing World.”

Pankhuree Dube presented a paper entitled “India’s Tribal Development in Comparison with Untouchable Success.”

Special Thanks to the Japan Club for helping make this trip a possibility!
Interns

Since Boise State is located in the capital city, a large number of internships are offered to our political science majors. These internships allow students to gain important experience, make valuable contacts, and earn academic credit—sometimes they even get paid. Many of our students took advantage of the internship program during the 2008-2009 school year.

**Summer 2008**

Laura Ames, Ada County Elections Office

Robyn Austin, United States Attorney General Office of Idaho

Jonathan Carkin, Committee to elect Nicole LeFavour

Sarah Cuellar, Werk for Senate campaign

Brian Ertz, Western Watersheds Project

Lorin McArthur, LaRocco for US Senate

Christina Perry, Idaho Department of Agriculture Marketing Department

Amanda Post, Sue Chew for State Representative campaign

Bryan Ricker, Office of Congressman Bill Sali

**Fall 2008**

Anjuli Waybright, People to People Ambassador Program

Rebecca Ames, Funk for Idaho Campaign

Dayna Anderson, Office of Governor C.L. “Butch” Otter

Robyn Austin, United States Attorney General Office of Idaho

Jonathan Carkin, State Legislative District 19 Coordinated Campaigns

Monica Carreon, State Legislative District 19 Coordinated Campaigns

Justine Cook, Obama for America

Tyler Gaylord, LaRocco for Senate

Kate Henry, Boise City Council

Erica Madrid, STARS

**Spring 2009**

Laura Ames, ACLU of Idaho

Jonathan Carkin, Idaho Senate Minority Caucus

Anthony Carter-Smith, Eiguren Public Law and Policy

Justin Deeg, Idaho Senate Majority Caucus

Connor Elkington, Idaho House of Representatives Minority Caucus

Paige Fetzer, Idaho Human Rights Education Center

Sheila Francis, Boise City Mayor’s Office

Katherine Garonzik, Idaho House of Representatives Minority Caucus

Susan Hamblin, Consumers Advancing Patient Safety

Wayne Harris, Idaho State Senate

Jana Mackova, Idaho Human Rights Coalition

Erica Madrid, Office of Senator Mike Crapo, Caldwell office

Evan Mortimer, Idaho Senate majority Caucus

Christina Perry, BSU Assistant for Intergovernmental Affairs

Tara Reilly, ACLU of Idaho

Stacy Rhoads, Debrah Carnahan Law Office

Erik Sande, Idaho House of Representatives Minority Caucus

Daniel Shull, Idaho House of Representatives Minority Caucus

Jacqueline Wayment, Idaho House of Representatives Minority Caucus

Since Boise State is located in the capital city, a large number of internships are offered to our political science majors. These internships allow students to gain important experience, make valuable contacts, and earn academic credit—sometimes they even get paid. Many of our students took advantage of the internship program during the 2008-2009 school year.
Pre-Law Society
By Mike Olsen, President

The inception of the Boise State University Pre-Law Society was in 2005. Since then it has been the club’s mission to help students actualize their goal of attending law school. I have had the privilege of serving as the president of this organization since 2008. As time progresses we are looking to expand our interaction and assistance towards students; this semester alone we have already held a meeting with local attorneys on how to fund law school, and we hope to have three more by the end of the semester. We host these meetings with panels from the Young Lawyers Association who proffer advice to students interested in legal careers. Last fall, the Pre-Law Society hosted a very successful Law School Admissions Test (LSAT) and Law School Admissions Council (LSAC) preparation meeting, where we acquired several speakers who had taken the LSAT recently, here we had them display how to navigate the LSAC website, and provide valuable advice on studying for the LSAT.

Every fall the society hosts our annual law school admissions dinner in which admission officers, representing law schools throughout the northwest, offer a rare insight into the admissions process. The panel discusses what they look for in prospective law students, the importance of personal statements, and how much factors like LSAT scores and grade point averages influence their decisions. This last fall semester we were able to procure seven law school admissions officials, including an official from Hamline Law School in Minnesota, making for a tremendously auspicious evening. In March we are having our annual ‘mock law school class,’ this is a great opportunity for all students, where Professor Matt Christensen, using the Socratic method of questioning, goes over a historical Supreme Court case, congruously to how a law school class would. With the overwhelming flow of support from local attorneys we hope to provide an avenue for students and lawyers to connect and interact this school year.

At our last meeting in February, elections were held. Due to a December graduation and the others approaching graduations, vice-president Jonny Carkin, treasurer Charles Walsh, and secretary Carlos Soriano did not seek re-election. They devoted much of their time and energy to the Boise State University Pre-Law Society, and deserve the gratitude of all of us for their hard work. Looking forward, we were provided with three apt new replacements I am privileged to work with, vice-president Joseph Rossi, treasurer Chris Mason, and secretary Jackelyn Sandoval.

Finally, I would like to extend a huge thanks to Dr. Lori Hausegger. Her efforts have been integral to the sustenance and advancement of the Pre-Law Society, without her I do not believe any of this would be possible. It is through her efforts that we have managed to facilitate all of our events. Hope to see you all at the next meeting. For more information about the Pre-Law Society, contact Dr. Lori Hausegger at lorihausegger@boisestate.edu or Mike Olsen at mkioelsen@u.boisestate.edu.
Another marvelous year is coming to a close and the PSA would like to thank each and every one of you that helped make 2008-2009 such an exciting success. This year’s dream team included Anjuli Waybright (President), Hanako Wakatsuki (Vice President), Conor McGee (Secretary) and Ernesto Beruman/Matthew Edwards (Fall/ Spring Treasurers respectively).

We were fortunate to have a major election season this past fall and many PSA members worked, interned or volunteered with the many campaigns and other projects. We even brought some of the local political debates to campus and hosted candidates for hotly contested seats in a town hall style atmosphere.

The PSA is committed to support of its members, and they were active in the conference and lecture circuits this year with amazing products coming from their diligence. Among them, the International Studies Association West conference in September kicked off the year with four PSA members honored with invites to present their research on issues as diverse as global development, economics of Latin America, indigenous strife in India and the voice of Japanese internees during WWII.

Of course we continued our traditional events such as that of fine dining and networking with our biannual PSA Faculty-Student dinner, this year held at the Cazba and PF Chang’s. What a joy it was to be involved with both the highly popular Japan and Canada weeks on campus that provided us the opportunity to not only learn more about the cultures and politics of the nations but also to have face time with their visiting dignitaries.

Our volunteers were active and out and about in the community. The YMCA Youth Government event helped us to connect with area high school students in hands-on education on the Idaho political machine. Our volunteers helped register voters in Ada County, were poll workers, and stood in as mock witnesses with local law groups. Two of our club officers even went on to shave their heads to show support in the fight against childhood cancer.

Even in an economic downturn, the PSA helped to continue interest and exposure to global development issues and its relevance in being good stewards and representatives of our nation. We hosted lectures with the local chapter of an India development group, and met with inspiring individuals such as Greg Mortenson who builds schools along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border. Many of our members also represented the nation of Sudan and the University in the Model United Nations.

Our Career Development Event could not have been timelier. Many thanks to our field professionals TJ Thompson, Greg Funk, Perri Gardner, and Jennifer Iuvone of the Career Center who helped to prepare POLS students to woo employers. We will be holding the workshop again in the fall and welcome each of you to join us.

I have so loved my tenure as President and know that next year will be just as amazing as new leadership is elected. Thanks to all of you and a special appreciation for our gallant advisor Dr. Ross Burkhart who brings drive and unparalleled dedication to the organization. Dr. Burkhart was recognized this year for his excellent service to students (and the PSA) with the David S. Taylor award.

If you are interested in receiving e-mail updates and joining the PSA drop us a line at: bsupsa@hotmail.com

We even joined Facebook so come and friend us!
Pi Sigma Alpha National Honor Society
By Matthew May, Vice President

The National Political Science Honor Society, Pi Sigma Alpha, is an organization that is dedicated to the recognition of students who have distinguished themselves through their hard work. Each year, Boise State’s Xi Chi Chapter sponsors a Recognition Luncheon that not only honors new inductees to Pi Sigma Alpha, but also recognizes the Pre-Law Society, Political Science Association, interns, and intern supervisors. The luncheon is a rare opportunity for students to interact with faculty and honored guests to discuss not only their education, but what kinds of opportunities their degrees offer them in the “real world”, as well. On March 16th, 2009 these groups came together and did just that.

This year, our guest speaker was award-winning journalist Thanh Tan, moderator of the weekly Idaho Public Television program “Idaho Reports”, which features panel discussions of various legislative issues facing the State of Idaho. A graduate from the University of Southern California with degrees in both International Relations and Broadcast Journalism, Thanh was able to offer great insight into the dynamic that exists between members of the press and elected officials, a discussion accentuated by the presence of elected officials, both past and present, in the audience. We would like to thank Ms. Tan for taking the time to speak at the luncheon!

Also at the luncheon, Pi Sigma Alpha inducted several new members into its ranks. Recognized for their academic achievement were Robyn Austin, Kate Henry, Kelsey Martindale, Christina Perry, Brindee Probst, Tori Shockey, and Charles Walsh. They join current members and officers Sarah Cuellar, President; Matthew May, Vice-President; Nicolas Diaz, Treasurer; and Pankhuree Dube, Secretary. Pi Sigma Alpha would also like to extend its thanks to our advisor, Dr. Brian Wampler, for his continued support in ensuring that the Xi Chi Chapter runs smoothly from year to year.

For more information regarding Pi Sigma Alpha, please contact the Political Science Department at bwampler@boisestate.edu or call 426-1458.
Brian Wampler Named Fulbright Scholar

Dr. Wampler, Assistant Professor of Political Science, was recently named a Fulbright Scholar by the U.S. State Department and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board. He is one of approximately 1,100 U.S. university faculty members who will travel abroad through the Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program. The Fulbright Program, America’s flagship international education exchange program, is sponsored by the U.S. State Department and operates in more than 155 countries worldwide.

He will spend the 2009-2010 academic year conducting research, teaching and lecturing at the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG) in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. Dr. Wampler, who is fluent in Portuguese, will team-teach graduate political science classes with UFMG faculty members and conduct research on how civic groups in a democratic society access their government. Wampler’s family, including his wife Paula and two children will travel and live in Brazil with him for the duration of his stay. Sebastian (5) and Ginger (3) will enroll in Portuguese-language pre-school.

“This award allows me to extend a decade-long research project,” Wampler said. “I will be investigating how community leaders and citizens use different paths to interact with their local elected officials. I have lived in Brazil for three years, so this opportunity allows me to contribute to the education of Brazilian students and the Brazilian academic community.”

“Dr. Wampler’s scholarship is well deserving of this award,” said Melissa Lavitt, dean of Boise State’s College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs. “He has an international reputation as an outstanding political scientist, and his exploration of how to facilitate participatory democracy is truly fascinating.”

Q & A with Gracie Bingham, College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs Senator

Arbiter Newspaper: Why did you decide to join Senate? I decided to run for Senate because I thought it would be a good way to network with students and faculty. That, and I was hoping to gain an inside track in doing something about the abysmal pianos in the Morrison Center.

What skills do you feel you’ve learned the most from being a senator? Being in Senate has further helped me hone my time management skills and multi-tasking abilities. I’ve also learned much about working within a bureaucracy, which is a useful asset as I prepare to enter the real world. Above all, learning to cooperate with others, as elementary school as that sounds, has been an invaluable lesson.

What’s it like being a senator? Being a senator certainly is exhausting, but it has its rewards. I spend a fair amount of time in meetings, which can be both tedious and illuminating. It’s interesting to learn about the legislative process and fun to spend time with friends from Senate and the other two branches. Since I was recently appointed to be a College Senator, I’m now excited to work for my college.

When you’re not studying or being a senator, what do you like to do? When I’m not studying or being a senator, I enjoy playing the piano and cooking. I love to read the news, try to learn French, and watch House.

What’s your major and why did you choose it? I am a double major in Political Science and History. I chose these because I would love to work in international relations one day, perhaps for the Department of State. I have to take a few more credits each semester to work towards my double major, but I hate the thought of missing out on a class or professor in either department.
Department of Political Science Recognition Luncheon
March 16th, 2009

The Political Science Recognition Luncheon is an annual event to induct new members into Pi Sigma Alpha, The National Political Science Honor Society, and pay tribute to our interns and their supervisors, the students in the Political Science Association, as well as members of the Boise State University campus community.

The luncheon is hosted by the Department of Political Science, and sponsored by a grant from the Pi Sigma national office. This year’s guest speaker Thanh Tan is a producer and reporter for Idaho Public Television and host of “Idaho Reports” which airs on Idaho PTV. She specialized in covering politics and the Idaho Legislature as a reporter for KBCI between 2004 and

Dr. Gary Moncrief, Political Science Internship Coordinator, offers a few words on what has been happening in the internship program over the year.

Dr. William Overton (left), Adjunct Professor and Dr. Ross Burkhart, Chair

Guest speaker Thanh Tan received an honorary membership in to Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science honor society

Model UN Club Recognized as ASBSU Student Organization of the Year

The Model United Nations club was named ASBSU Student Organization of the Year for 2007-2008. An organization can only be recognized once every three years and must go above and beyond the two a year requirement for community service projects. The prize is $300 in funding for the club. Two the club’s officers at that time were Political Science majors: Rebecca Ames, President, and Geneva Román, Vice President. Geneva graduated in May of 2008.

Among the 16 Boise State students who attended the national Model United Nations in New York April 22-26, 2008 were Political Science students Bryan Ricker, Hanako Wakatsuki, Anjuli Waybright, Geneva Roman, and Rebecca Ames. The conference provides a forum for learning about the United Nations through role-playing including opening and closing sessions held in the U.N. General Assembly Hall.

Rebecca Ames, President, and Geneva Román, Vice President

Among the 16 Boise State students who attended the national Model United Nations in New York April 22-26, 2008 were Political Science students Bryan Ricker, Hanako Wakatsuki, Anjuli Waybright, Geneva Roman, and Rebecca Ames. The conference provides a forum for learning about the United Nations through role-playing including opening and closing sessions held in the U.N. General Assembly Hall.

Rebecca Ames, President, and Geneva Román, Vice President

Among the 16 Boise State students who attended the national Model United Nations in New York April 22-26, 2008 were Political Science students Bryan Ricker, Hanako Wakatsuki, Anjuli Waybright, Geneva Roman, and Rebecca Ames. The conference provides a forum for learning about the United Nations through role-playing including opening and closing sessions held in the U.N. General Assembly Hall.
Meet our Adjuncts—Dr. Stewart Gardner

Some Political Science adjuncts are so popular among students that they might as well be faculty. Dr. Stewart Gardner taught an extraordinary seven courses for the department over the last year. These courses included several sections of American National Government as well as The Ideas of America and Contemporary Political Thought, among others. Whether preparing for his courses in his office or hanging out at the copy machine, we had plenty of time to ask him these questions:

What is your educational background? My undergraduate degree is in political science and psychology, from the University of Washington. My Ph.D. is in the history of political philosophy, from Michigan State University. The title of my dissertation was “The Prophet of Money: Locke's Political Economy.”

What got you interested in studying political science? I was interested in political history and current events even as a small child—I still have a wastepaper can with all the presidents on it (up through Nixon) that a friend gave me for my tenth birthday. My mature interest in political philosophy grew out of the basic human hunger to know how it all works. I eventually came to realize the interrelatedness of the human psyche and the external world, and especially our common political arrangements, as Plato first suggested in his Republic. As Madison's immortal words have it, "What is government itself but the greatest of all reflections on human nature?"

What do you hope students take away from your courses? The connection of our personal lives with the life of the community is also one of the two main lessons that I strive to get across in every one of my courses. "The personal is the political," said an earlier wave of feminists, and I would add that the political is best understood when we "take it personally," considering its relation to our own pursuit of happiness. The other general thing I hope students take away is that human nature is a mixed thing, and so, there are no absolute answers or final solutions that remain human or humane. Another implication of our mixed nature is that the mark of a liberally educated person is that she can hold two or more ideas in tension together in her mind at once, without succumbing to the urge to reduce one into the other.

Thanks to Dr. Gardner for taking the time to answer these questions. The Political Science department and students are undoubtedly benefited by having such a qualified and dedicated teacher in our department.

CONGRATULATIONS!

The Political Science Department would like to congratulate Dr. Gardner and his wife Kimberly on a brand new addition to their family.

Ruth Lynette Gardner was born March 11th, 2009. She weighed 9 lbs. 4 oz., and was 21 inches long.
Faculty Honored at Author Recognition Reception

Albertsons Library hosted the fourth annual Faculty and University Authors Recognition reception on Wednesday, February 4th, 2009. The reception honored Boise State faculty and staff who published articles, books, chapters in books, and creative works during the 2007-2008 academic year. Some Political Science faculty have been publishing for more than 30 years! A list of faculty publications for 2007-2008 follows:

- Bostaph, Lisa M. Growette, Jonathan Bolen, Margaret Jackson, Dr. Wanda Viento, Dr. Elizabeth Fredericksen, Dr. Suzanne McCorkle, LaDessa Foster, Sherry Iverson, Dr. Linwood Vereen, Dr. Deidre Rogers-Sommerlad, Vickie Gooch, Sandra Piotrowski, Jennifer Poole, Dr. Karen Neill, Gary Raney, and Dr. Mark Neill. Idaho Victim Assistance Academy Advanced Curriculum. 1st Boise, ID: Idaho Coalition Against Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault, 2008.
**Faculty Notes**

**Dr. Ross Burkhart**, Associate Professor and Chair and Co-Director of the Canadian Studies Program, is co-authoring a book with Les Alm and Marc Simon (Bowling Green State University) on science, democracy, and environmental policymaking. Burkhart made several academic presentations last year. He presented papers on democratization, inequality and globalization at the International Studies Association conference in San Francisco and American Political Science Association conference in Boston, as well as a paper with Les Alm on Canada-US environmental policymaking on global warming at the Western Social Science Association meeting in Denver.

Burkhart is chair of the Bookstore Advisory Board and serves on the Women’s Center Advisory Board. He is the faculty advisor to the Political Science Association. Off campus, he serves on the Board of Directors of the Boise Committee on Foreign Relations and the Youth Advisory Board of the YMCA. Burkhart is also the southwest Idaho regional director of the YMCA Youth Government, which had its annual convention in January, co-sponsored by the Department of Political Science. More than 90 high school students from schools in the Treasure Valley participated in the one-day mock government exercise on the Boise State campus.

**Dr. John Freemuth**, Professor and Senior Fellow for the Andrus Center for Public Policy, continued to serve as Interim Director of the Energy Policy Institute (EPI), a three university/Idaho National Lab consortium. He wrote the introductory chapter on the relationship of science and public policy for book “Ecology and Conservation of Greater Sage-Grouse: a Landscape Species and its Habitats”, *Studies in Avian Biology*. The book will be a key document used in the decision to list the greater sage-grouse under the Endangered Species Act. He also helped the Cecil Andrus center secure funding for an Andrus conference to be held this fall on campus.

**Dr. Lori Hausegger**, Assistant Professor, is the Department’s Pre-Law Advisor and the Faculty Advisor to the Pre-Law Society. She is also Co-Director of the Canadian Studies program at Boise State University. Hausegger is currently working on a large project addressing judicial selection in Canada. She and her co-authors presented a paper on evaluations of judicial nominees at the Midwest Political Science Association meeting in Chicago in April 2009, and will present a paper linking judicial decision making and the appointment process at the American Political Science Association meeting in Toronto in August 2009. She and her co-authors have also finished a book on the judicial process in Canada. The book was released this year by Oxford University Press.

**Dr. Dick Kinney**, Professor, attended the Western Political Science Association (WPSA) annual meeting in March. At the conference roundtable on budgeting in the western states, he discussed the findings from his initial analysis of "economic stress, revenue short-falls, and budget reductions in Idaho." During the summer, he will add an analysis of the Legislature's appropriations decisions and comparison with the governor's recommendations. The Center of Public Policy and Administration at the University of Utah will include the revised manuscript in the annual proceedings for the state budgeting roundtable.

Kinney helped prepare the department for the review of teacher education programs at Boise State. The review was conducted by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and the Idaho Department of Education early in 2009. A major activity during the review was a poster exhibit. Graduating senior Stephany Wright very professionally represented the department, displayed examples of her resources and assignments from her student teaching work, and discussed them with members of the review teams. The department's secondary education option successfully passed the review.

As the main political science advisor for the political science-social science-secondary education program, Kinney wants to hear from previous and current students in that program to tell him about their experiences. As always, Kinney invites his former students and advisees to let him know how they are doing. His email address is rkinney@boisestate.edu.
Faculty Notes—con’t

Dr. Susan G. Mason, Assistant Professor, has a forthcoming article in Community Development: Journal of the Community Development Society titled Regional Cooperation in Employment and Training Policy: A Matter of Collective Action or Intergovernmental Relations? coming out this year. Additionally, Mason co-authored with Dr. Lana Stein a book chapter for the 5th edition of Public Human Resource Management: Problems and Prospects. Mason is currently conducting research with Suzanne McCorkle on the efficacy of roommate negotiations to reduce roommate conflict in residence halls. Mason was also awarded a grant and is conducting research on Incentives and Barriers to Green Building with Drs. Marker and Mirsky in College of Engineering. Mason presented two papers at the 104th American Political Science Association. The first was titled, Community Design, Income Inequality and Social Capital Production: An Analysis of Interactions and Outcomes. The second paper was co-authored with Dr. Thomas of the University of Missouri-St. Louis and titled, Tax Increment Financing in Missouri: An Analysis of Determinants, Competitive Dynamics, Equity, and Best Practices. Mason serves on the Executive Board of the Urban Land Institute (ULI) District Chapter and was appointed by the Mayor of the City of Boise to serve on the Sustainable Development Incentives Taskforce.

Dr. Gary Moncrief co-edited the recently published Political Encyclopedia of U.S. States and Regions, a two volume reference book published by Congressional Quarterly Press. He also wrote two chapters for the book, one on Idaho and the other on the western region of the U.S. In addition, Dr. Moncrief conducted training workshops for state legislators in Colorado Springs and Boise. His new book, State Legislative Politics Today, co-authored with Peverill Squire of the University of Missouri, will be published in August by Prentice-Hall/Longman.

Dr. Greg Raymond, Frank Church Distinguished Professor of International Relations, published the third edition of The Global Future (Wadsworth Publishers) and two book chapters: "Serbian-American Relations in the Twilight of Unipolarity" in Diplomatic Relations Between the USA and Serbia (Belgrade: Glasnik Press), and “The Imperiled American Imperium” in Debating Democracy (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt). He also presented a research paper on just war theory at the annual meeting of the International Studies Association in New York City, and delivered a lecture on trends in world politics at a workshop for secondary school teachers organized by the Idaho Human Rights Education Center. In addition, Raymond moderated a panel on foreign policy challenges at the 2009 Frank Church Symposium on “Perils and Possibilities for the New Administration,” and gave a series of four lectures to the Osher Institute on the Punic Wars (264-146 BCE) between Rome and Carthage. Currently, he serves as a Vice President of the Interdisciplinary Studies Section of the International Studies Association, and is working on a new book titled Foreign Policy Evaluation.

Dr. Brian Wampler, Associate Professor, published his first book, Participatory Budgeting in Brazil: Contestation, Cooperation, and Accountability (Penn State Press) in 2007. The paperback version is being released in Spring 2009. Wampler was granted a Fulbright Scholar award to spend the 2009-2010 academic year in Brazil, teaching and conducting research. Wampler's research efforts continue to focus on participatory politics, and now includes cases from Spain and Mozambique. Wampler was honored in spring 2008 as the "Honored Faculty Member" of Top Ten Scholar Kylie Boggess.

Dr. Scott Yenor, Associate Professor, continues to teach, head seminars aimed at Teaching American History, and write. On sabbatical this year he is completing a manuscript on the history of the family in modern political thought, tentatively entitled The Family’s End: the Idea of Family in Modern Political Thought. He has presented portions of his book at several speaking engagements around the country this year. His daughter, Sarah, is recovering from her lengthy cancer treatments and she is doing very well, while the four Yenor boys, Jackson (13), Travis (11), Lumpy (7), and Mark or Biscuit (1) are growing beyond belief.
Political Science Alumni

Sadie Babits (2003) is the News Director for Boise State Radio Administration at Boise State University.

Chris Carr (2005) cornerback and kick returner fro the Tennessee Titans, was a guest speaker at Challis Elementary in January.

Todd Christensen (1996) has been named vice-president, marketing director with Bank of Pacific, which has branches in coastal communities from Lynden, Wash. To Gearhart, Ore. Previously, he worked as president and CEO of Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce.

Maggie Colwell (Mahoney) (2001) joined the city of Caldwell as the assistant to Mayor Garret Nancolas. Colwell’s duties include providing media relations, citizen response, policy research, project support and coordination of administrative tasks for the mayor.

Benjamin Davenport (2007) has joined the Boise firm of Evans Keane LLC as a governmental affairs liaison.

Ali Ishaq (2004) has joined Booz Allen Hamilton Inc., a government-focused consulting firm in Washington, D.C. He is a strategic communication consultant for the Organization and Strategy Team.

Larry Laverty (1985) recently performed in films shot in Pennsylvania and Iowa. Since developing an interest in acting during his last year of study at Boise State, Laverty has appeared in more than 90 movies and has acted in stage productions.

Scott Martin (1995) works in Virginia’s Roanoke Valley as Franklin County’s director of commerce and leisure. He is in charge of economic development and runs the tourism department for the county.

Amber Messa (2006) was accepted into the International Relations Master’s program at St. Mary’s University in San Antonio, TX.

Mike Rogers (1985) owns Precious Metal Arts, a jewelry store on the ground floor of the Idaho Building in downtown Boise. He is known for unique, elegant pieces and specializes in custom jewelry.

Jeremy Sauer (2002) recently completed the Aviation Officer’s Advanced Course as first in his class. He is now studying International Political Economy at the Colorado School of Mines.


Jacob Twiggs (2004) joined the Mini-Cassia Public Defender Office as an attorney. He works with adult misdemeanor cases in Cassia County. Twiggs received his Juris Doctorate from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in Lansing, Mich.

Major Vaughn Ward (1994) was awarded the Bronze Star with Combat V for Valor for his actions while serving as a Marine Rifle Company Commander in Fallujah, Iraq from March to October 2006.

Stephanie C. Westermeier (unknown) is Vice-President and General Counsel at the Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise. She received her J.D. from the University of Utah College of Law in 1991 as a William H. Leary Scholar and has been chair of the Idaho State Bar Health Law Section since 2006.

Deaths


Geoff Hardy died from complications from an accident at the age of 53. He was a non-traditional student who had returned to BSU with a great enthusiasm for learning Political Science.

Alumni Update

Alumni, we would like to include you in this section of the News. Let us know about your past or present education, your career or any other information you feel would be interesting reading, and a photo if you like. Please send your contributions to Dr. Ross Burkhart at the address below, or fax it to (208) 426-4370, or email to rburkha@boisestate.edu for inclusion in the next edition.

Name: ____________________________________________________________________________________

Degree(s) and Year(s): _______________________________________________________________________

Address ___________________________________________________________________________________

Email Address: ______________________________________________________________________________

What have you been up to? ____________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________________

Become a Member of Friends of Political Science at Boise State University

A recent outside review of our program concludes that the Boise State University Political Science Department “is excelling across all three traditional review categories of teaching, research, and service…” The reviewers were particularly impressed that this department “take(s) seriously its commitments to superior undergraduate instruction,” and that “the undergraduate program of instruction in political science at Boise State University is one of the very best in the country among its peer institutions…”

Unfortunately, our ability to maintain such a high quality program is increasingly threatened. Even as our enrollment is increasing, the budget for higher education in Idaho has decreased. In there fiscally challenging time, gifts of supports for the Department of Political Science are more important than ever. You contribution will enable out outstanding students to join Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society, or help deserving students attend conferences so they can present papers. Use the clip out form to the right to make your contribution today. For more information on how to augment the department, contact the Boise State University Foundation, (208) 426-3276.

To make a contribution to the DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE, mail this form and your tax-deductible donation to:

Boise State University Foundation
Department of Political Science
1910 University Dr.
Boise, ID 83725-1030

Name: ___________________________________________________________

Address: _________________________________________________________

Email Address: ____________________________________________________

Phone/Fax: ________________________________________________________

Please make your check payable to Boise State University Foundation, enclose this form with your check, and write Political Science in the memo portion of your check for your tax deductible donation.

Thank you for your support.

Boise State University
Department of Political Science
1910 University Dr.
Boise, ID 83725-1935
025A100001
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED