A Few Words from the Chair
By Dr. Ross Burkhart

It is my pleasure to welcome you to this newsletter. Many good things have been happening in our department. Student honors keep rolling in. Regan Charlton was selected as a Top Ten Scholar, giving the department a half-dozen students who have received this honor in the past six years, one of the top departments on campus. Christina Coats and Amanda Khampha have been inducted into the Founders Leadership Society. Mark Gehrke and Sarah Tatischeff will serve in student government this coming fall having won their respective elections. Alums Stacy Faulkner, Theresa Grant, and Dave Gratton have been selected respectively as Idaho Women Making History, Idaho Woman of the Year, and as a justice on the Idaho Court of Appeals. Our students and alums are making a difference on and off campus. Our internship program is thriving thanks to the leadership of Dr. Gary Moncrief. We have placed students locally, nationally, and overseas in significant and career-enhancing internships. Our pre-law society has welcomed to campus an important law school admissions officer caravan thanks to the leadership of Dr. Lori Hausegger.

Our faculty have written new books and articles on many subjects this past year, from state politics (Dr. Gary Moncrief’s new book State Legislatures Today: Politics Under the Domes) to international relations (Dr. Greg Raymond’s revised edition of The Global Future) to environmental and democratic politics (my and Dr. Les Alm’s new book Turmoil in American Public Policy: Science, Democracy, and the Environment). Dr. Brian Wampler has been conducting research in Brazil during his year as a Fulbright Scholar.

Sarah Cuellar, our administrative assistant, will enter Gonzaga Law School this August. We are going to miss her professionalism and grace in handling all our requests as well as ushering in our Facebook page. Happy Trails Sarah! We also are thankful for the hard work of our office assistant, Kristof Bihari, and our work-study students, Cy Lootens and Brittany Thomas.

We additionally thank our adjunct instructors who allow us to diversify and enhance our curriculum offerings. Our 2009-2010 adjunct instructors were Matt Christensen, David Dahle, Stewart Gardner, Bill Jarocki, John Keenan, Carole Nemnich, Bill Overton, Bobby Schneider, Steve Shaw, Alan Sobtzak, and Steve Wilson. And we are especially thankful for the fine work of our visiting professor, Dr. Deniz Erkmen.

Finally, as this is the last newsletter I will welcome you to due to my term as chair ending, I would like to thank everyone associated with the Department for their counsel and encouragement over the past six years. It has been a real honor to serve as chair and the department will be in great hands with Dr. Scott Yenor beginning in August. I will return to regular faculty duties including teaching more international relations courses.
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.

Regan Charlton, Inkom, Idaho, is a political science major with a philosophy minor. She is a four-year member and current captain of the Boise State Speech and Debate team where she has been recognized as a Speech and Debate All-American. She is a member of the Honors College, the Pre-Law Society, and the Political Science Association. Charlton’s research endeavors include performing a multiple regression analysis on international political rights scores. She presented her findings during the Boise State Undergraduate Research Fair in April 2010. In addition to her academic activities, she has given volunteer service to many organizations including judging high school forensics tournaments, sending care packages to troops overseas, fundraising for organizations like the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure and the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, and providing presents for needy families during Christmas through Boise State’s Adopt-a-Family program.

Honored faculty — Dr. Ross Burkhart, chair, Political Science Department

Right: Dr. Burkhart with Regan at the awards ceremony on April 20th, 2010.
Political Science Students elected as Senator, President Pro-Tempore for 2010-2011 ASBSU Senate

Mark Gehrke, a junior working towards a Political Science degree with an emphasis in American Government and Public Policy, was elected as a Senator-At-Large during the Spring 2010 elections. He was then elected by the ASBSU Senate as President Pro-Tempore of that body, an important leadership position.

1) Why did you want to become involved in student government? Is this your first time representing fellow students?
I sought to become involved in student government here at Boise State University because I truly do care about the school. My primary motivation is to give back to the students attending and attempt to make their time here at Boise State as phenomenal as mine has been thus far. Most people I have talked to assumed that I was a part of my High School's student government but this will be my first time representing students in any position.

2) How did your studies in Political Science help your campaign and your understanding of what the job of Senator requires?
I found my studies as a political science major to be one of my greatest assets during the campaign. First and foremost I sought to stick to a positive campaigning strategy. In my opinion, because of the results as well as the feedback from students during the campaign, it worked 100%. As for the role of a Senator, I simply sought to be honest as to how I planned to represent students. I want to hold to my promises and maintain my position in the most transparent and accountable way possible.

3) Do you think the experience you gain from being an ASBSU Senator will help you in the future?
I plan to put forth my duties as a Senator to the best of my ability. I believe that service in a leadership role will teach me many things I can apply to the future. I look forward to working with the new ASBSU as well as learning whatever I can along the way.

Sarah Tatistcheff, who is double majoring in Political Science and French, was elected as the ASBSU Senator for the College of Arts and Sciences. Even though Sarah will be representing another college at ASBSU meetings next year, she stays involved in Political Science through her role as Treasurer of the Political Science Association.

Fall 2009

Hannah C Alexander
Michael Bret Anderson
Heidi M Bailey
Kelsey L Bernstein
Gracia Jeanette Bingham
Nicholas R Brown
Anthony Louis Calarco
Regan Charlton
Kari Anderson Cook
Peter Elias Seraphim Cook
Diana M Cox
Jacob Ronald Croke
Cameron J Crow
Matthew O. Deleon Guerrero
Jeffrey Matthew Dolikfa
Alexander John Eakin
Cassandra Ann Ganger
Tyler Lane Gaylord
Mark J Gehrke
Kristina Jean Gillespie
Meagan Isabel Glorfield
Maxwell A Greenlee
Casey J Hagan
Carrie E Harder
Lorraine M Harper
Wayne Harris
Derrick Elvin Hill
Kevin T Holmes
Robert Gene Humphrey
Gabriel J Iacoboni
Felycia F Itza
Samyon Y Itzhakov
Kristin Lyn Jackson
Charles C. W. Johnson
Jared Donald Johnson
Sara Justine Jordan
Rebecca A Joslin
Robert P Kern
Jaime Lynn Kerwin
Christoph R. Kettermann
Phillip S King
Julie Ann Kirk
Chelsea Ann Kucera
Benjamin Gordon Larsen
Zachary Allan Leckenby
Ashley Christine Liggett
Matthew Ryan May
Keith Lance McCleve
Shannon Nicole Miller
Ahmad Zahir Nadery
Jenna R Nash
Angela Dawn Nelson
Kaela Olsen
Michael Kenneth Olsen
Tyson N Olson
Kaci Parker
Daniel Robert Pew
Lauren M Pfeifer
Alex J Pipkin
Brindee Lee Probst
Charles Read
Katelyn E Reading
Daniel D Rhodes
Crystal Dawn Richcreek
Anna D Rigas
Michael Rex Roundy
Leonila Maria Sablan
Alexa Marie Sakolsky-Basquill
Elliot Paige Salmon
Shelby Davis Scott
Darrell Moroni Scroggins
Steven Andrew Shaw
Mark Alan Suderman
Sarah A Tatistcheff
Andrew Evan Thomas
Kimberly Michelle Waller
Joshua M Watkins
David James Webb
Jacob Westerfield
Nathan Thomas Whitley
Zachary J Widner
Brandon M Wiygul
Allison Danielle Yawczak
Moqin Yu
Sarah Tatistcheff
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 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 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. 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 was a former chair of the department and currently serves as Director of the Public 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 2009-2010 Academic Year:

Gracia Bingham, BSU Foundation Scholarship  
Emily Boswell, Political Science/English Scholarship, BSU Foundation Scholarship  
Daniel Brennan, BSU Foundation Scholarship  
Jennifer Brown, BSU Foundation Scholarship  
Regan Charlton, Political Science Department Scholarship  
Mark Gehrke, BSU Foundation Scholarship  
Maxwell Greenlee, BSU Foundation Scholarship  
Casey Hagan, BSU Foundation Scholarship  
Joshua Hansen, Political Science Department Scholarship  
Cyrl Lootens, BSU Foundation Scholarship  
Brindee Probst, Political Science Department Scholarship, BSU Foundation Scholarship  
Katelyn Reading, Political Science Department Scholarship  
Michael Roundy, Canadian Studies Scholarship  
Tori Shockey, John Kaiser Public Affairs, BSU Foundation Scholarship  
Andrew Thomas, BSU Foundation Scholarship  
Brandie Vanorder, BSU Foundation Scholarship

The Political Science Department sat down with two of our student conference participants to ask them about their experiences. Here is what they had to say:

1) What was your research about?

Brindee Probst: My research project was a multiple regression analysis of the factors that influence the number of legal abortions obtained by women the United States. I looked at such factors as age, the restrictiveness of a state's abortion regulations, the unemployment rate, the rate of adherence to Christianity, and the percent of a state's population located in urban areas.

Regan Charlton: I performed a Multiple Regression Analysis on International Political Rights Scores. I used five different variables: ethno-linguistic heterogeneity, economic development, percentage of a country's population that is rural, percentage of a country's population that believes religion is very important, and whether or not a country had instated women's suffrage before or after 1920 to see what effect these factors may have on a nation's political rights.

2) What have you learned from participating in this conference?

BP: The two most interesting things I learned from my project were that legislation has no significant impact on the number of abortions -- abortion numbers don't increase with lenient legislation and they don't decrease with strict legislation -- and also that states with a higher percentage of people aged 18-24 actually have lower abortion rates. I think that both of these speak very strongly for the fact that we need to reevaluate our approaches and attitudes towards women who seek abortions.

RC: The conference was a great way for me to see how interesting my project actually is. When you're involved in an extensive research project, it's always interesting to you, but you can forget that others could learn something from your research as well. Interacting with the audience reminded me of the importance of my research. I also enjoyed learning about the other research projects that Brindee and Jenny were working on.

3) Do you have any plans for future research?

BP: Not at Boise State, I graduate in May! I'm headed off to law school at the University of Utah in the fall, however, so I'm certain I'll get my fair share of legal research in.

RC: Next year I'm headed to law school where I'm sure I will have my fair share of research to conduct. However, after law school, I would definitely like to pursue more political science research. It was an informative and surprisingly enjoyable experience that I would like to duplicate.
Two Political Science Students Inducted into Founders Leadership Society

The Founders Leadership Society was established to recognize juniors and seniors 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.

**Christina Coats**, from Yucaipa, California, is studying sociology with a minor in political science. She is the Volunteer Services Board outreach coordinator; the current treasurer for the Panhellenic Council; and a leader for the Girl Scouts of Silver Sage. A member of Alpha Chi Omega, she served as the vice president of chapter relations in 2009, and as vice president of recruitment in 2008-09. Christina is also active in the Pre-Law Society. A skilled organizer passionate about helping others, she has organized blood drives, Service Saturdays, and Volunteer Expo. She has also been involved in the Civic Leadership Residential College. Her plans after graduation in May of 2011 include attending law school and focusing on child advocacy.

**Amanda Khampha**, a Boise resident, is pursuing a bachelor’s degree in political science with an emphasis in international relations. She is the assistant director of the Volunteer Services Board and a student representative on the First-Year Read Committee. She is also a member of the Alpha Xi Delta Sorority, is fluent in Laotian and Thai, and has studied Spanish for two years. Her honors include the Horizon Award and the Larry Selland Leadership Scholarship. Amanda has served as an orientation leader for New Student and Family Programs, as a secretary of finance for ASBSU student government, and as a group leader for Spring Break Alternative in 2009 and in 2010. After graduating in 2012, she plans to pursue her master's in higher education.

Political Science Student Named 2010-1011 American Political Science Association Minority Fellow

Since 1969, the APSA Minority Fellowship has designated more than 500 Fellows, both funded and unfunded, and contributed to the completion of doctoral political science programs for over 100 individuals. The Association has refocused and increased efforts to assist minority students in completing their doctorates by concentrating not only on minority recruitment, but also assisting with the retention of these groups within the profession.

The APSA Minority Fellows Program designates up to twelve stipend minority fellows each year. Fellows with stipends receive a $4,000 fellowship that is disbursed in two $2,000 payments—one at the end of their first graduate year and one at the end of their second—provided that they remain in good academic standing. Awards are based on students’ undergraduate course work, GPA, extracurricular activities, GRE scores, and recommendations from faculty.

**Jenny V. Gallegos** currently attends Boise State University as a political science major with an emphasis on American government. In Fall 2011, she will pursue a graduate degree in political science with an emphasis on Latino politics. Jenny plans to specialize in group identity, ethnic group mobilization, discrimination, and political behavior. Ms. Gallegos's personal projects include a combination of the aforementioned subjects. The Ronald E. McNair Program and the Department of Political Science at Boise State University have provided great support for Jenny as she pursues her academic endeavors.
Alum Stacy Falkner Honored With Regional Award

By Cindy Salo

Since 2001, the Boise State University Women's Center has honored local "Women Making History": ordinary women leading extraordinary lives. The award has become a tradition in BSU's Women's History Month celebration. Stacy Falkner (2008) was selected as one of the women who are changing the history of Idaho. These women were nominated and selected for their admirable work in our community.

In 2006, Stacy had a fulfilling life as a wife and mother. However, she had the feeling she could be doing more for others. "I wanted to do more to make the world a better place for everyone," she says, "and I saw political science as a path to doing that." Stacy enrolled at Boise State University to complete the bachelor's degree that she had started several years earlier at the University of Idaho.

One of her professors challenged the class to read a book that was not part of the assigned readings. Stacy chose "The Audacity of Hope" by Barack Obama. Finishing the book was a defining moment for a woman raised in a well-informed family of Republicans. Obama’s message of hope and change resonated with Stacy and echoed her own optimism and desire for a better world.

When Obama announced his candidacy for the presidential election, Stacy knew she had to act. She designed an internship through the Political Science Department, which allowed her to combine working for democratic change with completing her degree. The internship with the national Obama campaign challenged Stacy to establish chapters of Students for Barack Obama at every college and university in Idaho. Stacy’s first grassroots organizing experience was a success. By the end of her internship, chapters existed at each of the nine schools in Idaho. Embarking on a second internship, Stacy took a closer look at policy creation at the state level. She served as an aide to Idaho State Senator (then representative) Nicole LeFavour. This allowed her to see the valuable roles that personal relationships, often crossing party lines, can play in lawmaking.

Stacy’s organizing skills and experience with the legislature paved the way for her current position. She now serves in the Public Affairs Department of Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest (formerly Planned Parenthood of Idaho). Josie Evans-Graham, education coordinator at Planned Parenthood, says of Stacy, "She has, and will, play a role in the positive change we seek in our state.”

Political Science Alum appointed to Idaho Court of Appeals

Governor C.L. “Butch” Otter chose Political Science alum David W. Gratton as the first appointee to the newly created, fourth position on the Idaho Court of Appeals. In a news release, Governor Otter said: "Heavy caseload and the complexity and magnitude of cases being handled by our judiciary prompted the Legislature to add a judge to the Court of Appeals. Dave Gratton's experience, temperament and perspective make him a solid choice for this important position.”

In response to his appointment, Mr. Gratton stated: “I'm very honored and humbled to have been selected. The Judicial Council sent four highly qualified applicants to the Governor. I appreciate the Governor's confidence in me and my legal abilities, and I look forward to serving the people of Idaho for many years.”

Judge Gratton was born and raised in Emmett, Idaho. He earned a bachelor's degree in Political Science from BSU in 1982. He then went on to earn his law degree from the University of Idaho in 1985. He served as an intern law clerk for Ninth Circuit Judge J. Blaine Anderson in 1984 and law clerk to United States District Court Judge Harold L. Ryan from 1985 to 1987.

Judge Gratton joined the law firm of Evans Keane LLP in 1987, becoming a partner in 1993, until his appointment to the Idaho Court of Appeals in 2009. He has been a lecturer and course instructor for courses in product liability and real property law, and has authored several publications.
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.

Xi Chi, The Boise State Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society is open to all political science majors who meet the following criteria:

- full-fee paying undergraduate students of Boise State University
- 3.0 overall GPA
- 3.5 GPA in all political science courses taken
- major program in political science
- completed three of the following classes - POLS 101, POLS 102, POLS 141, or POLS 231
- completed at least two upper division courses in political science

For more information, please contact Dr. Scott Yenor at syenor@boisestate.edu.
The U.S. State Department created a new program in 2008 to recruit the nation’s top students to experience how the Department protects US interests overseas. Dr. Ross Burkhart flew to Washington, D.C. and met with former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to begin implementation of the program.

The State Department Internship Program is designed to give exceptional students who are interested in careers in international relations first hand experience in US foreign policy. The nationwide application process was rigorous. In the end, three BSU students qualified for these prestigious positions. Their experiences gave them unique knowledge of how US foreign policy is carried out and has opened the doors for a variety of international relations careers post graduation.

Conor McGee interned at the United States Mission to International Organizations in Vienna (UNVIE).

Gracie Bingham went to Washington, D.C. for an internship with the Japan Desk of the Public Affairs Office.

Shannon Miller interned at the US Embassy in Tokyo.

Conor McGee keeps busy with his course work and his duties as President of the Political Science Association, but he found time in his schedule to share his thoughts on his experience in Vienna:

"My internship at the US Mission to International Organizations in Vienna was wonderfully enlightening. It is one thing to talk about foreign diplomacy, but to actually experience it is so much more rewarding. The reality of life as a US diplomat at the United Nations is a fascinating array of wonderment, pride, frustration, camaraderie, bafflement, and sometimes just ho-hum. I am grateful to have had this invaluable experience, partly for the foot in the door it has given me, but also just for the enormous personal enrichment. I found that while academic standards for internships like this one are high, it is also very important to be personable and to have a relaxed but efficient personality. I saw these virtues in my coworkers, and have been working to cultivate them since."
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 2009-2010 school year.

**Summer 2009**

**Gracie Bingham**, US State Department, Washington DC  
**Jeffrey Dolifka**, State of Alaska Department of Law, Criminal Division  
**Amra Durmic**, Idaho Democratic Party  
**Josue Gomez**, DHHS Food and Drug Administration  
**Keith McCleve**, US District Courts  
**Conor McGee**, US State Department, UNVIE  
**Shannon Miller**, US State Department, Tokyo Embassy  
**Mark Suderman**, BSU Environmental Finance Center

**Fall 2009**

**Caleb Benedict**, Boise Mayor’s Office  
**Brent Bosse**, US Senator Mike Crapo, Boise Office  
**Emily Boswell**, US State Department, London Embassy  
**Daniel Brennan**, ID Department of Fish & Game

**Spring 2010**

**Garret Ashton**, Idaho Freedom Foundation, Trevor Grigg for Idaho Legislature  
**Joel Beesley**, Idaho Legislative Services Office  
**Corin Chappell**, American Civil Liberties Union  
**Kari Cook**, American Civil Liberties Union  
**Peter Cook**, Idaho Volunteer Lawyers Program  
**Diana Cox**, Idaho Legislative Services Office  
**Jeffrey Dolifka**, Idaho Legislative Services Office  
**Meghan Fulcher**, Idaho State Senate  
**Jenny Gallegos**, US Census Bureau  
**Auston Holmes**, Department of Environmental Quality  
**Matthew Kaiserman**, Idaho State House of Representatives  
**Andrew Kuraitis**, Office of Congressman Walk Minnick  
**Keith McCleve**, Idaho Office of Performance Evaluations  
**Arnold Mendiola**, Idaho Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
**Kaela Olsen**, Idaho State Senate  
**Lauren Pfeifer**, Idaho Department of Commerce  
**Alex Pipkin**, Office of Senator Mike Crapo, Washington DC Office  
**Kaytlin Schrader**, Idaho State Senate  
**Andrew Thomas**, Risch-Pisca, PLLC Law and Policy  
**Lindsey Wright**, Givens Pursley, LLP

**2009-2010 Interns and Intern Supervisors**

*Back row, left to right:* Dr. Ross Burkhart, Justine Cook, Jonathan Parker, Heidi Low, Theresa McLeod, Tracy Hall, Kari Cook, Carol Craighill, Peter Cook, Lauren Pfeifer.  
*Front row, left to right:* Max Greenlee, Heather Ketchum, Jason Mackrill, Conor McGee, Gracie Bingham.
The Boise State Pre-Law Society was formed in 2005. It is an organization that provides the resources and information for students to prepare for law school. It allows members the opportunity to meet with fellow students with similar interests and connect with local attorneys. I was recently elected president of the Pre-Law Society earlier this spring. I have had the opportunity to plan monthly meetings and reach out to those who are interested in obtaining a law degree. This semester we have had three meetings. One involving a panel of lawyers from the community discussing ways to afford law school, a Law School Admission Test (LSAT) prep class and what to expect when applying to law school, and our most recent meeting with Professor Matt Christensen teaching a mock law class using the Socratic method.

This fall we look forward to having meetings informing members of the Pre-Law Society about the application process, what the law schools are looking for and also hearing from those who have recently graduated from law school and getting an idea of what to expect from a career as a lawyer. We are also excited for the annual law fair in November. This year we had over 35 law schools present and nearly 200 students came by to meet with the admissions directors from each school. Because of the success from this year’s law fair Boise State University has been permanently added to the Western Association of Pre Law Advisors (WAPLA) caravan. Mark your calendars for November 18, 2010 for the next law fair, which will most likely attract even more law schools. Also, keep an eye open for a panel of admissions directors that will be organized the night before. They will answer questions about how to write a personal statement and other issues involved in the application process.

Elections were held in February this year and the previous year’s officers, president Mike Olsen, vice-president Joseph Rossi, treasurer Chris Mason, and secretary Jackelyn Sandoval did not seek re-election. I had the pleasure of working with them briefly in the fall and would like to thank them for all their hard work. I am excited to take on the position of president and work with vice-president Spencer Lay, treasurer Dustin Kameron, and secretary April Eggers. Already everyone has worked really hard to coordinate meetings and communicate to students the society’s upcoming events.

Finally, I would like to recognize Dr. Lori Hausegger for all the time and hard work she dedicates to the Boise State University Pre-Law Society. She has been a huge contributor to the success of the society and execution of monthly meetings. She has worked so hard to provide students with the tools to prepare for law school and even in the absence of a law school in Boise, she has managed to attract a high number of law schools to the law fair. I hope to see you all at upcoming meetings and Dr. Hausegger, the other board members, and myself welcome any ideas you may have for topics you would like to discuss. The Boise State Pre-Law Society is a beneficial source for preparing for law school and it is important that students are getting what they need. Become a fan of the Boise State Pre-Law Society on Facebook for updates and if you have any questions please feel free to contact either Dr. Hausegger at lorihausegger@boisestate.edu or myself at karicook@u.boisestate.edu.

First BSU Law School Fair Attracts Top Schools to Boise
By Lori Hausegger, Faculty Advisor

In November the Pre-Law Society hosted BSU’s first Law School Fair. The fair was made up of thirty-five law schools from across the nation and was attended by nearly two hundred students from around the Treasure Valley. Among the schools represented were Vanderbilt, William and Mary, the University of Oregon, Brigham Young University and Loyola University in Chicago.

By attending the fair prospective law students were able to get information and ask questions directly to admissions directors from schools they were interested in. Events such as this help students make well-informed decisions about which schools to apply to.

Later that night, a special panel of 10 law school admissions officers took questions from students and community members in the audience and explained the law school admission process in detail. The admissions process can be quite overwhelming and the panelists took time to explain every detail of the process, from studying for the LSAT to writing a strong personal statement. This year’s fair was so successful that Boise State has been added to the list of schools that admissions officers visit annually. Our second law school fair will be November 18th, 2010. Mark your calendars!
Political Science Association
By Conor McGee, President

While we are sad to see another year pass, PSA is happy for a year well-spent. We are grateful for all the involvement which helped make 2009-2010 a good year. Led by our officers Conor McGee (President), Matthew Edwards (Vice-President), Debbie Gornal (Secretary), and Sarah Tatistcheff (Treasurer), we accomplished numerous goals.

- PSA is particularly glad we were able to host Daniel Liao, Director General of the Economic and Cultural Office of Chinese Taipei, to speak on “The Cross Strait Relationship and Its Impact on American Diplomacy.” We are proud to say it was a crowded and enriching event.
- We continued our tradition of Student/Faculty dinners, enjoying Basque cuisine at longtime favorite local restaurant Leku Ona.
- Members continued to volunteer throughout the year with the YMCA Youth Government, a program which allows Idaho High School students to learn about government by participating in mock legislatures and courts.
- PSA continued to participate in and promote Canada Week, a BSU event which promotes understanding of Canadian issues by hosting knowledgeable speakers and other events.
- Shortly after the devastating earthquake in Haiti, PSA member Brenda Janot spearheaded "Idaho Potatoes Supporting Haiti," a wonderful fundraiser for Haiti, in conjunction with Feed My Starving Children, Simplot, the Idaho Potato Commission, the US Potato Board, with music by the Blues Addicts. We are grateful for the help of all these organizations. We are happy we were able to help and are excited to continue these types of events in the future.

We are proud of our new monthly PSA Newsletter, begun by Vice-President Matthew Edwards. It is published to educate Political Science students and others by featuring an interview with a professor and student of the month, upcoming events, meeting notes, photos, and more!

I have enjoyed my term as President of PSA, and look forward to next year’s success. PSA is a great way of connecting Political Science students to the faculty and to each other, and we hope to build on this tradition in the coming years. We are especially grateful to Dr. Ross Burkhart, our advisor and friend.


From left: Hanako Wakatsuki, Jennifer Benevente, and Tai Simpson volunteer during the Idaho Potatoes Supporting Haiti fundraiser.

If you are interested in receiving e-mail updates and joining the PSA drop us a line at: bsupsa@gmail.com
Also, find us on facebook!
Department of Political Science Recognition Luncheon
March 15th, 2010

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 Alpha national office. This year’s guest speaker Roy Eiguren is president of Eiguren Public Policy.

Dr. Ross Burkhart, Chair, moderated the luncheon. He spoke about his role as advisor to the Political Science Association and described what the Political Science Department has accomplished in the last year.

Roy Eiguren

Mr. Eiguren is the President of Eiguren Public Policy Firm, a Boise lobbying and public policy consulting firm which he founded in 2007. Mr. Eiguren is on the Board of Directors of multiple Idaho businesses and organizations, including the Idaho Independent Bank, Exergy Development Company, and the Avista Corporation.

Prior to entering private practice, Mr. Eiguren served as the Special Assistant to the Administrator and CEO of the Bonneville Power Administration of the United States Department of Energy, as a Deputy Attorney General and as a Deputy Secretary of State of Idaho, and as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney of Ada County.

He is the President of the Cenarrusa Center for Basque Culture and is a past Chairman of the Boise Metro Chamber of Commerce and the Idaho State Capitol Commission. He currently serves as a member of the Private Sector Board of Directors of the Pacific Northwest Economic Region, a statutory public/private partnership that facilitates cooperation and coordination among 5 U.S. states and 3 Canadian provinces.

Mr. Eiguren is a graduate of the Executive Program of the Graduate School of Business Administration at Dartmouth College and attended the Georgetown University College of Law and the University of Idaho College of Law, where he received his Juris Doctorate.
2009-2010 Faculty Publications


Political Science Alum Honored as an Idaho Woman of the Year

By Dani Grigg, Idaho Business Review

**Theresa Grant** (1998) once met a 5-year-old named Peter who had no hope left in his eyes. She found him in a village in Tanzania. He had lost both of his parents to AIDS, taught fear by abusive grandparents, and he was starving. That day, Grant gave him bread. Then she obtained permission from tribal leaders and Peter's grandparents to take him to the Tanzanian orphanage she helps fund and run.

Grant is the founder and executive director from Hailey-based Make A Difference, which seeks to empower children in Africa and India. MAD has built libraries, computer centers and classrooms in the two focus areas, and it is funding the private school education of 22 orphaned children. Grant sees education as the key to turning lives and communities around. It leads to self-sufficiency through work opportunities, and she said children in Tanzania cheer when they find out their school fees have been paid for the year.

"Giving back is important in order to help out community as well as to feed our souls," says Grant.

*Idaho Business Review Women of the Year spotlights 50 of the state’s most successful business women from both the public and private sectors while revealing the triumphs and challenges that have shaped their careers.*
Dr. Ross Burkhart, Associate Professor and Chair and Co-Director of the Canadian Studies Program, has just published a book with Les Alm and Marc Simon (Bowling Green State University) entitled *Turmoil in American Public Policy: Science, Democracy, and the Environment*, published by Praeger Press. Burkhart made several academic presentations last year. He presented papers on "Auditing Income Inequality Data in Models of Capitalism, Development and Democracy" at the American Political Science Association conference in Toronto, on "Scientists, Environmental Policy-Making and the Concept of Objectivity: A Canada-United States Perspective" with Les Alm at the International Canadian Studies Institute Impacts conference in New Orleans, and "Borders and Borderlands: Canada and the United States" with Les Alm at the Western Social Science Association conference in Reno. 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 80 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, wrote the introductory chapter "Ecology and Conservation of Greater Sage-Grouse: a Landscape Species and its Habitats", on the relationship of science and public policy for the book *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 May on campus, titled "Life in the West: People, Land, Water and Wildlife in a Changing Economy." He was invited to speak at boulder on the 10th anniversary of BLM’s National Landscape Conservation System and in New Orleans to the national meeting of the USGS Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Management Units.

Dr. Lori Hausegger, Associate 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 linking judicial decision making and the appointment process at the American Political Science Association meeting in Toronto in August 2009, and will present a paper on the evaluation of federally appointed judges at a comparative conference in Bologna, Italy in June 2010. She and her co-authors also have an article coming out this year in the *Canadian Journal of Political Science*.

Dr. Dick Kinney, Professor, attended the Western Political Science Association (WPSA) annual meeting in April. At the conference roundtable on budgeting in the western states, he discussed the findings from his initial analysis of the continuing revenue shortfalls and spending 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. As the advising coordinator for political science, Kinney invites past and present students to send him their comments about advising in the department. In addition, as the main political science advisor for the political science-social science-secondary education program, he 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.
DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

Faculty Notes—con’t

Dr. Susan G. Mason, was promoted to Associate Professor and earned tenure in the 2009-2010 academic year. Mason co-authored two articles since last year: Tax Increment Financing in Missouri: “An Analysis of Determinants, Competitive Dynamics, Equity, and Best Practices” in the journal Economic Development Quarterly with Professor Kenneth Thomas and “Fostering Neighborhood Viscosity: Does Design Matter?” in Community Development Journal with Dr. Elizabeth Fredericksen. Mason worked with Drs. Marker and Mirsky in College of Engineering to produce a new report on Green Building in the Pacific Northwest. Mason has given several presentations with the study’s findings—one at the Idaho Planning Associations Conference in Boise and another at the 40th Annual Conference of Urban Affairs and at the Idaho Green Expo. Mason continues to serve on the Executive Board of the Urban Land Institute (ULI) District Chapter.

Dr. Gary Moncrief, Professor, conducted workshops and/or panel sessions for state legislators in Colorado Springs and Santa Fe, NM, at the Western Legislative Academy in Colorado Springs. His most recent book State Legislatures Today: Politics Under the Domes, co-authored with Peverill Squire of the University of Missouri, was published in 2010. Dr. Moncrief, along with former Speaker of the Idaho House of Representatives and former Idaho Legislative Staff Director Carl Bianchi, conducted a 2-day workshop in January, entitled “Behind the Scenes in the Idaho Legislature.” Over 125 people attended the workshop.

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 was 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. His book, tentatively entitled The Family’s End: the Idea of Family in Modern Political Thought, is due out February 2011 from Baylor University Press. He has presented portions of his book at several speaking engagements around the country this year. He has also founded the American Founding Initiative on campus, aimed at highlighting the American Founders’ teachings of constitutionalism and limited government. Additional details can be found on the AFI website, afi.boisestate.edu. His daughter, Sarah, is still in remission from her cancer and she is doing very well, while the four Yenor boys, Jackson (14), Travis (12), Lumpy (8), and Mark or Biscuit (2) are large specimens and thriving.

Jeremy Sauer (2002) has obtained his Masters in International Political Economy from the Colorado School of Mines
## Political Science Alumni

**Kristof Bihari (2008)** is enrolled in the Masters of Public Administration program at Boise State University.

**Todd Christensen (1996)** became president/CEO of the Coeur d’Alene Area Chamber of Commerce. Christensen previously worked as vice president/marketing director for Bank of the Pacific.

**AJ Church (2009)** was appointed as regional director for U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo’s south-central office in Twin Falls. Last year, Church held the same position in Crapo’s southwestern office.

**Maggie Colwell (2001)** was hired at the College of Idaho as executive assistant to President Marv Henberg. Previously, Colwell was assistant to Caldwell Mayor Garret Nancolas.

**Sarah Cuellar (2009)** is beginning her first term at Gonzaga University School of Law in the fall.

**Claudia Day (1985)** recently joined Office Environment Co. as a sales executive. She also serves on the board of Foothill’s School of Arts and Sciences and is committee chairwoman for the Idaho Chapter of the US Green Building Council.

**Stacy Falkner (2002)** was selected for BSU Women’s Center annual Woman Making History award for her volunteer activity.

**Janelle Finfrock (2001)** joined Zarian, Midgley and Johnson, PLLC as a litigation paralegal at the Boise patent and intellectual property law firm.

**Theresa Grant (1998)** was honored as an Idaho Women of the Year for leadership of the non-profit organization Make A Difference, which offers assistance to children in Africa and India.

**Dave Gratton (1982)** is a partner in the Boise law firm Evans Keane LLP, and has been appointed by Gov. C.L. “Butch” Otter to a new seat on the Idaho Court of Appeals.

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

**Scott Martin (1995)** was hired as director for 21st Century Parks. The nonprofit agency is working on development of a parks system by Floyds Fork in Louisville, Ky. Martin previously worked as director of the Department of Commerce and Leisure Services in Franklin County, VA.

**Mike Sanford (2005)** has been appointed as the Tight Ends Coach and Recruiting Coordinator for the Yale University Bulldogs football team.

**Kevin Satterlee (1990)** is an associate vice president and general counsel for Boise State University. He was recently awarded the Association of Corporate Counsel Mountain West Chapter’s Leadership Award.

**Jeremy Sauer (2002)** graduated from the Colorado School of Mines with a Masters in International Political Economy in 2009. He is now in serving in the Army’s 12th Aviation Brigade in Bavaria, Germany.

**Jade Stacey (2004)** became an associate for Elam & Burke P.A.’s legal team. Stacey was a law clerk before joining the Boise legal team.

**Eric Taylor (2003)** became a member of Rigby’s planning and zoning commission in October 2009.

**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.

**Vaughn Ward (1994)** is currently running as a Republican Candidate for Idaho’s Congressional District 1 seat.

### Deaths

**Pauline Peterson-Theison (1999)** passed away peacefully on February 23rd, 2010 after a courageous and hard fought ten-year battle with cancer.
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 as 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 excel-

ling across all three traditional review categories of teaching, research, and service...” The reviewers were particularly im-

pressed that this department “take(s) seriously its commitments to superior undergraduate instruction,” and that “the under-

graduate 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 in increasingly threatened. Even as our enrollment is

increasing, the budget for higher education in Idaho has de-

creased. 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 pre-

sent papers. Use the clip out form to the right to make your con-

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