

Political Science News

vol II Alumni Update
June 2004

From The Head

Dear Alumni and Friends:

Nancy Zimpher brought a period of great optimism fall quarter when she joined UC as the 25th president. President Zimpher's inauguration occurred May 25 and coincided with the announcement of a new academic plan, "UC21," and the formal opening of the new MainStreet complex in the heart of campus. The new President exudes charm, energy, and garnering enthusiasm to all who meet her.

At its College Awards Dinner on May 25, the college awarded two departmental graduates recognition as Distinguished Alumni. The recipients were Michael B. Coleman, '77, mayor, Columbus, Ohio and William T. Weaver, '76, vice president general manager, U.S. west region sales, Hewlett-Packard.

Meanwhile, the political science faculty and students continue to energetically pursue their love of learning. In the face of further budget reductions, the department gained a \$135,000 Taft Enhancement Grant to develop research, teaching, and outreach in security studies. Additionally, three faculty members have joined the department to help strengthen our expertise in American politics and international security studies.

The departmental awards ceremony, attended by nearly 70 participants was held in conjunction with a Taft Lecture (see next column) on May 6 to recognize the granting of 40 undergraduate degrees and 13 graduate degrees. Students honored included 14 departmental honors, seven university honors, two Phi Beta Kappa, two UC Honors Scholars graduates, two Taft Graduate Fellowships, a Department of Homeland Security Award, and 11 new inductees into the Pi Sigma Alpha National Political Science Honorary Society. In addition, the ceremony recognized Political Science Student Association leaders, model UN Teams, Student Government leaders, and recipients of the Certificates in Public Opinion.

The faculty always enjoying hearing from former students so we encourage you to send us information about your activities. We plan to provide a forum for publicizing our graduates' successes in future issues of this newsletter.

Best Wishes,
Joel D. Wolfe, Head



William T. Weaver '76



Michael B. Coleman '77

Taft Lecture: Building Peace Piece by Piece: Lessons from Namibia to Iraq

Since the late 1980s, the international community has undertaken the task of state-building in the aftermath of conflict. Drawing on the varieties of experiences in Namibia, Cambodia, Somalia, East Timor, the former Yugoslavia, and Iraq, what have been the outcomes? What lessons can be gleaned? Which approaches have been successful? Which have failed? With state failure no longer an option, both the international community and the U.S. need to examine the lessons of post-conflict state-building.

In brief, Professor Mingst offered a list of lessons, outlining factors favoring peace. The list includes 1) security as a necessary first, 2) peace as a social bargain, 3) economic reconstruction as necessary but not sufficient, 4) societal reconciliation as necessary, 5) socialization in democratic practices, 6) societal transformation mitigating internal sources of conflict, 7) a positive image of reform, 8) coordination of short and long term goals, and 9) the need for multi-lateral involvement in peace making.

Karen Mingst, lockwood chair professor, Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce and professor of political science, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky. Professor Mingst is recognized worldwide as a scholar in international relations theory. She is the author of six books, including "Essentials of International Relations." Additionally, Mingst is the recipient of numerous research grants from private, governmental and international agencies, including the National Science Foundation, two Fulbright Fellowships, a Ford Foundation Grant, a U.S. Institute of Peace Grant and a Pew Faculty Fellowship at the Kennedy School of Harvard University.

Department Awarded Taft Grant

The political science department was awarded a \$135,000 three-year grant (2005 to 2008) to enhance the department's scholarly research, teaching, and outreach activities in the area of security and governance. The team leading this subject focus includes faculty members James Stever, the principal investigator, Richard Harknett, Dinshaw Mistry, and Mia Bloom. The projects will facilitate individual faculty research, collectively produced conferences and books, and new curriculum. In addition, team members will apply for further funding outside the university. In a response to the war on terrorism and the new Department of Homeland Security, our faculty experts are targeting this booming topic with vigor.

Alumni News

Angie Smith ('98) works for the U.S. State Department at the Embassy in Athens, Greece.

Helena Guimaraes ('95) is associate professor of economics and vice dean of the School of Economics and Management at the University of Minho, Braga, Portugal.

Luis Lobo Fernandes ('92, '95) is associate professor of political science and head of the department of politics and international studies in the School of Economics and Management at the University of Minho, Braga, Portugal.

Cori Funk ('03) enrolled in the first law school class at the University of Dayton. Last fall semester he was first in his class.

Sara Fulmer ('03) is finishing a year in Americorps and will enter graduate school this fall.

Keith Potter ('01) successfully finished law school.

Ying Jen-Lo ('03) signed a book contract to publish her dissertation.

Joshua Bowers ('00) works as a contract specialist for the Environmental Protection Agency in Cincinnati.

Nasheela Khaku ('99) works for Goldman Sachs in London.

New Faculty

Barbara Bardes completed her post as dean of UC's Raymond Walters College and will join us as a full professor fall quarter 2004. She brings expertise in American government and institutions.

Al Tuchfarber left his post as director of the Institute of Policy Research to return to the professorial ranks. He has long been associated with the department and is a full professor.

Mia Bloom received her PhD at Columbia University and comes to us with academic experiences from Cornell and Princeton. Her areas of expertise are international security, terrorism, and the Middle East.

Faculty News

Howard Tolley spent fall quarter 2003 in the Netherlands on a Fulbright Fellowship.

Richard Harknett became chair of the Taft Fund in fall 2003. He will lead the Taft Center as it relocates to a new building and expands its programs.

Michael Margolis currently serves as graduate director and has presented papers at the Southern and Midwest Political Science Association meetings.

Thomas Moore serves as undergraduate director.

Joel Wolfe was appointed head of the department in autumn of 2003.

James Stever took a year's leave of absence after completing a five-year term as department head.

Chan Cho is visiting research professor from the department of political science, Chungnam National University, Korea. He is studying the diplomatic role of the Ohioan Horace Allen in the Late Yi Dynasty over the next year.

Jane Anderson currently serves on the American Political Science Association's new Elections Review Committee (2003-04) and will explore electoral mechanisms regarding diversity representation should APSA have regularly contested elections. She was appointed by current APSA President, Susanne Rudolph.

Laura Jenkins was promoted to associate professor with tenure.

Contact Information

More information about the department of political science is on the web at www.polisci.uc.edu. If you know a fellow graduate did not receive this newsletter, please forward their address to the department. To include your latest news in future publications, sign up to receive the college's e-newsletter, or update your address visit www.artsci.uc.edu/alumni.