

WICHITA STATE UNIVERSITY
POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT
NEWSLETTER FALL 2018

DC/TOPEKA INTERNSHIPS



*Arely N. '17, Erendira J., Mika H. '17,
Katie D. '17, Nigel M. '18, & Matthew K.*

Dr. Neal Allen took on the role of Internship Coordinator this year and had a very successful first year of leadership, with the largest cohort in the program's 24-year history. Ten students interned in D.C., working for a mix of U.S. Congress, political party, and interest group offices. They earned course credit and participated in a weekly seminar featuring guest speakers from many sectors. Three students interned in Topeka. With support from donors, Political Science funded housing and a small stipend for 7 students, while the Honors College supported 6 students through the Cohen endowment.

This program provides a clear path to employment for students, as is demonstrated by our Spring 2017 cohort. One was hired for a permanent position by Sen. Jerry Moran's Wichita office after his internship, and another student stayed in D.C. after graduation to work for the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities. The other two both has Summer internships connected to their Spring D.C. placement, and plan to work in state or national politics after graduation.

MODEL UN IN ST. LOUIS & SCOTLAND

Wichita State Model UN students conducted extensive research into the foreign policies of Nigeria and Sweden last Fall in preparation for the Midwest Model UN conference in St. Louis. We were especially lucky to have two Nigerian nationals and a Swedish exchange student in the group this year who provided some rich context for our delegates. Their hard work paid off - they returned home with nine awards! (See page 5).



Just a week after our St. Louis trip, the group headed to Scotland for an international conference. We arrived in the middle of the "snow-pocalypse" that hit the UK the first week in March. Edinburgh was mostly closed down for two days, but they managed to pull-off the conference, and we had a great time exploring the city even in the snow.

CELEBRATING PROF. MEL KAHN



In the Fall of 2017, Prof. Mel Kahn began a three year phased retirement plan, gradually scaling back his work in the department. We are pleased to celebrate his many years with us, but will also miss having him around so often! Prof. Kahn began his service at Wichita State University in 1970 when he was hired as the Chair of the Political Science Department. Since that time, he has devoted countless hours to the success of his students and the betterment of the department. Students often express astonishment at the electoral details that he remembers and shares with his classes. Alumni regularly share stories they recall of Prof. Kahn in the classroom, dress as Plato, John Locke or Alexander Hamilton, inspiring a new appreciation for political theory and politics. His founding of the Washington DC internship program has given over 100 students the chance to development professionally and seek exciting new employment opportunities.

WELCOME PROF. HEATHER ONDERCIN

The department is pleased to introduced our newest faculty member: Dr. Heather Ondercin. Prof. Ondercin received her PhD in Political Science and Women's Studies from Pennsylvania State University. Her research is broadly on gender, partisanship, , and public opinion. She has taught courses at Louisiana State University, the University of Mississippi, and the College of Wooster. We are very excited to bring her expertise to our department this Fall!



CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. CAROLYN SHAW



This Fall, Carolyn accepted the position of Associate Vice President of Strategic Enrollment Management in the Provost's office. She will be overseeing many of the offices across campus related to student recruitment and retention. Although she will be a full time administrator, she did negotiate to hold on to her role as Model UN faculty advisor, so she will continue to teach MUN and travel to conferences with our students. She is excited about this new opportunity, but will miss her close work with her colleagues in the Political Science department.

Prof. Allen has been elected the New Chair for the Department.

SPOTLIGHT ON DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

The Political Science Department is grateful to those alumni and friends of the department who have endowed scholarships and contribute to the Annual Fund that provides additional scholarship funding. Below, we want to share the background on several of our endowed scholarships.

KATHLIEN R. EDMISTON SCHOLARSHIP



Kathlien Edmiston enrolled at the Wichita University after graduating from Wichita High School (now Wichita East) in the late 1920's. She was president of her sorority, Sorosis, now Delta Delta Delta, and vice president of her senior class. She met her husband, E.K. Edmiston at a school dance. Upon graduation in 1933, she began five decades of community work, focusing on WU and politics. Mrs. Edmiston served on the WU Board of Regents, chairing the board from 1956-57, and later on the WSU Board of Trustees. She lobbied for inclusion into the state system in the early 1960's. She received the Alumni Recognition Award in 1967. She chaired or worked on many local, state and national Republican campaigns. In 1985, Mrs. Edmiston filled an unexpired term on the Wichita City Commission and served briefly as mayor of Wichita.

Her husband, E.K., and daughter, Kelly Callen, established her scholarship in Political Science to honor her dedication to community activism. After their death, their children funded the E.K. and Kathlien Edmiston Study Room at the Ablah Library.

The 2018-2019 recipient of the Edmiston Scholarship is Kylie Cameron (above left).

Additional Scholarship Recipients include: Annie Blake - Donna L. Shank Scholarship; Kylie Cameron & Shelby Rowell - Sara Hyde Corbin Memorial Scholarship in Political Science; Daniel Caudill - Jean Hargrove Scholarship in Political Science; Hannah Chegwiddden - Ken Ciboski Scholarship in Political Science; Mosaic Griffin - Thomas P. & Ella N. Wolf Scholarship; Cynthia Niederee - Robert N. and Priscilla Partridge Political Science Scholarship; Jaiden Soupene - R. Wesley McCarty Scholarship; Hannah Tabler - R. Wesley McCarty Scholarship & D. J. and Terry Scanlon Political Science Scholarship.

INTERESTING FACT

The Political Science Department gives out approximately \$25,000.00 annually in scholarships. These scholarships come from the generosity of donors to help finance students and to help them succeed.

GATEWOOD SCHOLARSHIPS



Mike Gatewood's continued support has provided funding for students to study abroad in Spain, France, South Korea, Paraguay, and Germany; attend the Academy Conference; complete internship experiences, and conduct research with faculty. We are grateful for his dedication to our students!

Mike & Cindy Gatewood, and Carolyn Shaw—Enjoying a Shockers game!

(Pictured Left)

TRAVEL SEMINAR

Prof. Shaw traveled with nine students to Madrid, Barcelona, Geneva, and Vienna this past Summer. The group toured the UN complexes in Geneva and Vienna, and even got a mission briefing from the Deputy Chief of Mission at the US Embassy!



LUZZATI LECTURE

This year we were pleased to bring Zach Baumer, from the Office of Sustainability in Austin, Texas to share his expertise on “Local Sustainability Initiatives: Green Ideas for Our Community”. This talk attracted people from the community with a broad range of interests.

RESEARCH ASSISTANTS

The following students worked as Research Assistants for the Political Science Department. Thank you for your assistance!

- Kylie Cameron (Prof. Shaw)
- Timothy Dodd (Prof. Hall)
- Kara Price & Shelby Rowell (Dr. Azpuru)
- Jaiden Soupene & Hannah Tabler (Prof. Allen)

AIR FORCE ACADEMY CONFERENCE

Two students attended the 58th annual Academy Assembly at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. They engaged with policy experts and 200 other delegates from across the country in exploring the Future of American Defense Policy.

Carleigh Camacho

(Pictured Left)



10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF WA-MUN

We celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Wichita Area Model UN Conference for high school students this year. Our WSU Model UN students serve as the dais staff for this conference each year and the conference continues to thrive! The topics for discussion this year were the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons and the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Security Council members dove into the topic of Security in the Middle East.

MODEL UN 2017-18 AWARDS



Outstanding Delegation: Shivani Nagrecha, Stella Yang, and Cynthia Matson (Ecosoc)

Outstanding Delegation: Stella Yang (ILO)

Outstanding Delegates: Daisy Kerubo and Yasmin Mohammed (First Committee), Zubair Khan (UNHCR)

Outstanding Position Papers: Carleigh Camacho, Sarah Myose, Taylor Cook, Cynthia Matson, and Zubair Khan

Honorable Mention: Daisy Kerabo, Erendira Jimenez, and Tim Dodd (Ecosoc)

Honorable Mention: Tim Dodd (WIPO)

SCOTMUN (EDINBURGH) AWARDS

Outstanding Delegates: Alex Arias, Stella Yang (Security Council) and Cynthia Matson (3rd Committee)

Honorable Mention: Daisy Kerabo (IMF) and Shivani Nagrecha (G-77)



FACULTY FOCUS



Dr. Neal Allen - neal.allen@wichita.edu

Neal Allen is the new Chair of the Political Science Department. He studies and teaches about American Politics. He spent the Spring Semester of 2018 on sabbatical in the United Kingdom at the University of Sussex, where he did research about civil rights in the 1960s. He is now director of the department's Washington, D.C./Topeka internship program, which served 12 students last Spring. He is a frequent commenter on politics in Kansas and national media, including the statewide PBS program Kansas Week. He enjoys live music and science fiction.



Dr. Dinorah Azpuru – dinorah.azpuru@wichita.edu

Dinorah Azpuru was promoted to full professor. She enjoyed teaching a new course called "Democracy and Authoritarianism" and had several publications throughout the year. During the 2017-2018 academic year she made presentations of her research on public opinion in Latin America in Chicago, Washington D.C., Mexico City, Guatemala City, and Barcelona (Spain). She enjoys spending time with her family, walking in nature with her dogs, and watching soccer and playing tennis.



Dr. Michael Hall - michael.hall@wichita.edu

Dr. Hall has been teaching courses ranging from basic courses like American Politics and International Relations to advanced courses like International Political Economy, European Politics and Environmental Politics. Professor Hall also worked as a member of a university committee on academic honesty. He continues to be the adviser for the College Democrats. In his current research, he explores the effects of ideological polarization and the performance of the economy on presidential election outcomes.



Dr. Carolyn Shaw - carolyn.shaw@wichita.edu

Carolyn Shaw had a very full year serving as the Faculty Senate President for 2017-18. This meant a lot of extra meetings, but also the opportunity to get to know many other people from different offices and departments across campus. She enjoyed her travels with Model UN as always, as well as leading the European Travel Seminar. When time allows, she spends time in her garden and sailing on Lake Cheney.

SCANLON BUTTON DISPLAY



The Ulrich Museum on campus hosted a special exhibit in the Spring titled “We the People: American Art of Social Concern”. The department was pleased to contribute over 100 political campaign buttons for the exhibit. These were part of a collection donated to the department by DJ Scanlon. Prof. Allen gave a talk for the opening of the exhibit!

Tom Scanlon & Prof. Neal Allen

CONGRATULATIONS

Prof. Shaw & Nigel Morton



Congrats to Paige Hungate and Nigel Morton who were recognized at Honors Seniors for 2017-18!



Prof Shaw & Paige Hungate

ALPHA DELTA CHAPTER CELEBRATES ITS 80TH YEAR

A WSU Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha Political Science Honors Society was founded in 1938 by Dr. Hugo Wall, who was inducted during his time at Stanford in 1925. Since that time, over 600 members have joined our chapter. Congrats to our newest initiates: *Jared Anderson, Carleigh Camacho, Hannah Chegwidan, Alexis Cupani, Adam Harrison, Charles Hiltunen Cather, Julie Minks, Luke Mohr, Cynthia Niederee, Matthew Rose, Shelby Rowell, Jaiden Soupene, Hannah Tabler, and Brett Van Dam.*



MILLETT-YOUNG MENTOR/SCHOLAR AWARD



Congratulations to Kaitlin Fox on receiving the Millett-Young Mentor/Scholar for her paper titled “A More Representative Democracy: Cultural Factors Conducive to the Election of Women” written under the supervision of Professor Dinorah Azpuru.

Prof. Dinorah Azpuru & Kaitlin Fox



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WRITE TO US!

WE LOVE TO HEAR
FROM OUR ALUMNI



WSUPolSciDept

Political Science Alumni Survey

<https://wichita.edu/psalumnisurvey>

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2017-18 GRADUATES!

- Alyson Assaf
- Adam Berry***
- Sarah Buchanan***
- Alexis Cupani
- Cole Ebenkamp
- Kaitlin Fox***
- Paige Hungate**
- Kelvin Lopez-Garcia**
- Luke Mohr
- Nigel Morton
- Gabriela Porubin
- Kara Price**
- Paul Schofield***
- Chris Tenbraak

Cum Laude *Magna Cum Laude



*Prof. Carolyn Shaw
& Prof. Michael
Hall*