



College of Letters & Science
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

North Hall News

News for Alumni and Friends of the Department of Political Science

Summer 2017



D.C. Interns Meet with Speaker Paul Ryan



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All Ways Forward



Greetings from Madison. This is my last newsletter as chair—John Zumbrunnen will have taken over the reins

by the time you read this. I have greatly enjoyed my three years as chair.

Despite the challenging fiscal situation faced by the university in recent years, the Political Science Department remains strong. While our share of the recent budget cuts was met by reducing the size of our faculty (by not replacing people who departed or retired), the outlook for the department is very positive. The state legislature is currently debating the next two-year budget and it is promising to be the best for the university in eight years. Admittedly, that is a low bar given the cuts we have faced, but we are hoping for \$135 million in new money from the state this year. As state support has slipped from 43 percent of UW System revenue in 1976 to 15 percent today, the increase is much appreciated.

In addition to the positive outlook for the university's budget, the department has generated new revenue from the summer budget and alumni support. We aggressively responded to the new incentives to offer more summer courses by creating six new online summer courses last year and these offerings were expanded in 2017. Money generated from the summer budget helped fund a new internal "spring competition" to support faculty research. In the past three years, major gifts from alumni have created the Elections Research Center, a Board of Visitors professorship, an estate gift to

create a professorship, and a new Scott Harris Fellowship for graduate student support, and fundraising is underway to create a Booth Fowler Professorship. The generous support of our alumni has been amazing.

To help prepare our students for the job market, we have added a new year-round Washington, D.C., internship program, strengthened our undergraduate methods offerings, revitalized our Mock Trial team and created a Moot Court team, and expanded summer internship opportunities in Chicago, Milwaukee, and the Twin Cities, while maintaining our steady flow of interns to the state legislature during the academic year. We also have a new department website, polisci.wisc.edu. Check it out if you haven't visited the site recently!

The most enjoyable part about being chair was interacting with such great people every day. My colleagues in this department are a great group of people. We study politics from a broad range of perspectives, but we respect the diversity of approaches and we all get along. The staff has been a real pleasure to work with—we have a great undergraduate team, and the main office staff is terrific. I also have enjoyed getting to meet many of you at the political science alumni events and Founders' Day events around the country. I will continue to work with our alumni after I complete my term as chair because I have enjoyed that part of the job so much.

On, Wisconsin!

David T. Canon
Chair, Department of Political Science

NORTH HALL NEWS

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ON THE COVER:

Department of Political Science interns
engage with Speaker of the House
Paul Ryan.

Creating a Booth Fowler Professorship



The Department of Political Science is working to take advantage of an extremely generous gift and bequeath

toward the establishment of a \$1 million professorship in the name of Robert “Booth” Fowler. An anonymous donor has provided \$500,000 in an estate gift and another \$250,000 in one-to-one matching funds, meaning that only \$250,000 needs to be raised for the professorship.

Booth was one of the most beloved professors in our department, often mentioned by alumni around the

country as their favorite professor. He taught at UW–Madison from 1967–2002 and inspired thousands of students over the years. Board of Visitors member and political science alum Joe Blackburn shared this memory of Booth:

“As it happened, my first political science class would be an elective, as I was a biochemistry major. Based upon my roommate’s suggestion, I was eager to take Contemporary Political Thought. In those days, class registration required that we show up at North Hall, which I ran to in order to get into the class. I walked up to the desk, which was staffed by three people, and of course the class was oversubscribed already. So I pleaded with them and said, ‘I really need

this class.’ One of the staff asked me why, and I went off on this oratory claiming that everyone says ‘Fowler is the best’ and this is the only class in the department that I desperately want to take. He decided to take pity on me and said he would see what he could do. And then, I was horrified upon walking into my first lecture, my mouth hanging open as the merciful staffer walked up to me and introduced himself as the professor. After three years and as many of his classes as I could take, I graduated with a degree in political science. In the interim, I cherished his wit, his Socratic teaching style, and his genuine concern that his charges learn to think as opposed to memorize. Priceless stuff.”

From the Dean’s Desk

Another academic year has ended, and I’m feeling the usual pride in our L&S graduates, as well as our faculty and staff. This year, L&S taught over 575,000 credit hours, more than 60 percent of all credit hours taught in the university. Two L&S colleagues, History of Science Professor Gregg Mitman and Associate Professor of Public Affairs Greg Nemet, were named Carnegie Fellows in April. UW–Madison Wisconsin joins four other institutions—Harvard, Yale, MIT, and Duke—in having two or more of the 35 winners. And our L&S Career Initiative continues to help undergraduates plan for the future.

In order to build excellence, I need to devote a good portion of my time talking and thinking about money.

In L&S, we are expanding revenue-generation through professional masters opportunities, visiting international student programs, and capstone certificates. We are also campus leaders in expanding summer semester. In 2016, we saw a 32 percent increase in tuition revenues, thanks to 75 new courses. There is no finer place to be than Madison in the summertime!

Another important priority is the All Ways Forward campaign, which is raising funds to support L&S faculty, students, and the research endeavor. As of this writing, we are 64 percent of the way to our goal. Every gift, whatever the amount, is important to us.

We appreciate alumni like you who remain invested in the future of this great university by supporting the College of Letters & Science. Together, we can make a difference.

Have a great summer!

Sincerely

John Karl Scholz
Dean, UW–Madison College of Letters & Science
Nellie June Gray Professor of Economics

P.S. For stories about how gifts can make a difference—and to make a gift—visit allwaysforward.org/schools-colleges/lc



Wisconsin in Washington

On January 8, 2017, 22 students started their semester in Washington, D.C., for the Wisconsin in Washington program's inaugural term. As reported in previous newsletters, our department built on our successful summer internship program to create a year-round program in Washington. Students from a broad range of majors including strategic communications, international studies, and political science began internships all across Washington, D.C. Our students worked in places such as The Brookings Institution, Atlantic Council, U.S. Asia Institute, Office of Representative Mike Gallagher, and the United Nations Foundation.

During their time here, the students worked four days a week while taking three courses. They all stepped up to the challenge and passed with flying colors. While spending many hours working and in the classroom, they had many rewarding experiences outside of work and studying, including spending an hour and a half with former Vice President Dick Cheney, who visited the classroom and spoke candidly about his life and experiences. The students

also met with House Speaker Paul Ryan. Speaker Ryan graciously welcomed the students into his conference room and to experience the view from the Speaker's Balcony at the Capitol building. In addition to those highlights, we had many wonderful UW–Madison alumni who mentored the students and visited the class to talk about their D.C. experiences.

The D.C. program provided some notable opportunities for students to explore their interests both personally and professionally. It also gave them time to learn more about our national landmarks and treasures. As a class, the students toured the Library of Congress, the United States Capitol, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, and the new National Museum of African American History and Culture. This experience for current UW students proved to be challenging, yet ultimately rewarding. I look forward to welcoming the next cohort of Badgers to Washington D.C.!

Story by Bola Olaniyan, Director of the Wisconsin in Washington Program.

Department sponsors new Moot Court team

The Political Science Department continues to support the UW College Mock Trial Team. This year nine students participated in tournaments around the country. Next year the program will expand to two squads, with a total of sixteen students participating. In addition, this year the department has also begun sponsoring the undergraduate Moot Court Team, with the guidance of Professor Howard Schweber and Wisconsin attorney Rick Cveykus.

Founding team captain Claudia Koechell had this to say about her experience:

“Since starting Moot Court, I have significantly improved my ability to think critically and reasonably, improved my knowledge on the U.S. Constitution and judicial system, and overall improved as an academic. From just

one competition season, I can now articulate eloquent arguments using precedents set by actual Supreme Court justices, as well as quickly and effectively answer questions on my feet. I have obtained skills that make me stand out from a group of law school applicants and demonstrate my ability to competently argue complex topics with professionalism and wit. A judge at a competition, who was a Stanford graduate and current University of Chicago law student, told me my composure and ability to answer questions made me seem like a real life appellate attorney. I really took this to heart, as I then realized that this was something I loved doing and that it was something I excel at. I look forward to putting even more time and energy into the next season and seeing the places where the Moot Court Team will take me.”



Members of the new UW Moot Court Team are, from left to right, Nathan Kiraly, Ryan Brown, Claudia Koechell, and Alyson Neihans.

PoliSci alumni have strong showing in “Forward Under 40” Awards

Winners of the Wisconsin Alumni Association’s Forward Under 40 awards were recently announced and political science majors won four of the eight awards. Chair David Canon was in Washington, D.C., in May to present the awards to Steven Olikara and Neha Lugo. Peter Tempelis of Madison and Shana Hazan from San Diego also won awards.

Story by David Canon, with liberal use of the Wisconsin Alumni Association’s press release on the Forward Under 40 awards.



Steven Olikara was honored for his work as the founder and chief executive of the Millennial Action Project, which organizes bipartisan caucuses of elected officials under the age of 40. Founded in 2013, the nonprofit is fostering cooperation among representatives of city councils, legislatures in 15 states, and the U.S. Congress. Bipartisan cooperation is in short supply in politics today, so this is important work!

Answers to the quiz

See page 8 for quiz questions.

1. *The president’s party (the vice president breaks ties in the Senate).*
2. *1934 (Great Depression), 1998 (Clinton impeachment), and 2002 (9/11).*
3. *The Speaker of the House (Paul Ryan) and the President pro tempore of the Senate (Orrin Hatch).*
4. *60 votes to invoke cloture.*
5. *The 2000 primary election in the 1st congressional district in Illinois (Bobby Rush beat him 59–30%).*
6. *Majority leader of the Senate.*



Neha Lugo says she’s found her “dream job in public service” at the U.S. State Department as an attorney for the Legal Adviser’s Office of Oceans, International Environmental and Scientific Affairs. She works on U.S. conservation efforts, including multilateral treaties that protect the marine environment, prevent wildlife trafficking, and promote biological diversity and global food security. She says, “I love my job, which allows me every day to take part in decisions that advance U.S. foreign policy and, I believe, the common good.”

Book Notes



As the chief development officer for the Jewish Family Service of San Diego, **Shana Hazan** leads multi-million-dollar fundraising, government relations, and public-policy efforts. She's also designed and launched a range of youth empowerment programs such as kindergarten readiness, service learning for girls, and teen leadership development, and she formed the Hunger Advocacy Network. Hazan says, "At the University of Wisconsin, I learned how to dream big, lead with conviction and compassion, and do the work to create a more just and equitable world."



When crime strikes, **Peter Tempelis** fights back with Wisconsin superpowers: a lawyer's mind and a Badger's heart. Serving as assistant attorney general in the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Tempelis seeks justice through what he calls a "dual focus on both law and policy." He enacted a program that helps to identify victims at the greatest risk of serious injury or death due to domestic violence. "A society's value is judged by the protection it provides the public and the most vulnerable," Tempelis has written.

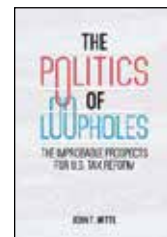
In a period in which many people are losing faith in our political institutions, it is gratifying to see such important work being done by these political science alumni. Our future is in good hands with these Badgers!



In *Everyday Law in Russia*, **Kathryn Hendley** challenges the prevailing view that Russians cannot rely on their law and that Russian courts are hopelessly politicized and corrupt by examining how ordinary Russian citizens experience law. Relying on her own extensive observational research in Russia's new justice-of-the-peace courts as well as her analysis of a series of focus groups, she documents Russians' complicated attitudes regarding law.



Comparative Political Theory in Time and Place: Theory's Landscapes, edited by **Daniel Kapust and Helen Kinsella**, explores comparative political theory with a focus on non-Western thought. This book contributes to political theory and our understanding of the modern globalized world by featuring discussions of international law and imperialism, regions such as South Asia and Latin America, religions such as Buddhism and Islam, along with imperialism and revolution.



John F. Witte's *The Politics of Loopholes: The Improbable Prospects for U.S. Tax Reform* examines the implications and likelihood of limiting the scope of the tax "expenditure" (loophole) system embedded in the income tax codes. This timely book explains how the tax code is affected by political desires and policy goals and why loopholes are so hard to change.



PHOTO BY JEFF MILLER

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Join the North Hall Society

The North Hall Society recognizes leadership donors who give \$500 or more to the Political Science Department annually. These gifts provide critical support to students, programs and faculty research. As a member of the North Hall Society, you will be invited to special events and gain access to expert analysis by UW-Madison political science professors on a broad range of political topics.

alumni.polisci.wisc.edu/give

Are you an expert on Congress?

1. If the Senate is divided 50-50, which party gets to hold majority control?
2. In the past 100 years, the president's party has lost seats in every midterm election except three unusual years that were influenced by major events. What were those three years?
3. If the president is unable to complete his term in office, who are the next two people in line to succeed the president after the vice president?
4. How many votes are needed to stop a filibuster in the Senate?
5. What is the only election that Barack Obama lost?
6. What congressional job is often compared to "herding cats"?

How did you do?
Check your answers
on page 6.

