



THE UNIVERSITY
of
WISCONSIN
MADISON

NORTH HALL NEWS

A Newsletter for Alumni and Friends of the Department
Fall 2006

CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION

Professor Graham Wilson, Department Chair

Universities are remarkable places. They combine both incredible age and incredible transience. Universities such as Bologna, Cambridge and Oxford are among the oldest institutions of our civilization in continuous existence. Even our own beloved Wisconsin predates much of what we take for granted about the United States today, including it being a full democracy. One of the most enjoyable aspects of my chairmanship has been the opportunity to visit with alumni around the country who so often maintain throughout their lives a deep and lasting affection for this university and department. Yet on average our undergraduates complete their degrees in just over four years and even many of our faculty spend only part of their careers here. Few match or exceed the four decades of service of Leon Epstein whose career we celebrate elsewhere in this issue. The normal term of office for a department chair, incidentally, is a mere three years.



Great universities and departments are therefore always a work in progress. We are constantly re-creating this department as we admit new majors, graduate students and recruit new faculty. Any slackening of resolve as we search for gifted new faculty would result in decline as retirements - and, yes, attempts to lure away our faculty by other universities - always result in some losses. We are always changing what we teach either by adopting new courses or by changing the content of courses we have taught before. One of the most fundamental requirements for our work as students or faculty is that it be original.

This summer encapsulates the constant change and renewal that is the life of universities. On the one hand, we mourn the death of Leon Epstein; on the other hand five new faculty (see "Comings and Goings" on next page) have arrived in Madison. We know that at least some of them will be honored forty years from now for their teaching and research here. We faculty feel a tremendous obligation to defend and continue the quality and standing of this department.

This newsletter reports exciting new developments such as the Washington DC program (see p. 9) that enhance the quality of our undergraduate program. No less than three of our faculty - Ken Mayer, Kathy Cramer Walsh and Howard Schweber - won university teaching awards last year. Kathy and Howard won these prestigious awards in the very year they received tenure, thus once again showing that great research and great teaching go together.

IN THIS ISSUE:

LIFE AFTER NORTH/
SOUTH HALL
PAGE 4

DAVID CANON SPEAKS
TO CONGRESS
PAGE 6

SUMMER IN AFRICA
PAGE 7

LONDON INTERNSHIP
PAGE 8

WASHINGTON D.C.
INTERNSHIP
PAGE 9

IN MEMORIAM: LEON
EPSTEIN
PAGE 12

WHAT DO
DICK CHENEY, RUSS FEINGOLD AND NFL LINEMAN JOE PANOS
HAVE IN COMMON?
FIND OUT ON PAGE 4 »

Yet the competition to be at the top of American – and global – political science department rankings has never been fiercer. Three years ago we recast our graduate program to insure that it remains among the best in the world. In the summer of 2005, we began a series of reviews conducted both by members of this department and distinguished members of the discipline to insure that we remain among the top departments in our discipline. This fall the department will be adopting a series of measures intended to give effect to the work of these review committees. Universities are sometimes presented as complacent ivory towers. I take great pride that these reviews were not the result of some mandate from the Dean or higher authority but sprang from the determination of our own faculty to preserve and improve the department's standing in the profession through studying and critiquing our own performance.

Though we faculty have the primary responsibility for protecting the standing of the department in teaching, research and service, we cannot succeed without your help. Whatever happens in state or federal elections this November, it will be a challenge to obtain additional funds from the state or federal government. Whether the Democrats or Republicans have the majority in the legislature or hold the governorship, pressures on state budgets for important and popular services such as health care will compete with pleas from the university for an increase in General Purpose Revenue. There is also a widespread feeling that tuition cannot continue to increase at the rate it did in recent years. More than ever, therefore, the maintenance of this department as one of the best in the world depends on the support of you, our alumni. The last page of this newsletter lists a variety of ways in which you can make a difference through supporting undergraduate programs, graduate students and faculty research. We thank you for your past and future support; we shall use it wisely.

The major theme of the last issue of this newsletter was about our teaching – what we do, why we do it and how we think about it. The major theme for this issue is you, our alumni. How did your experiences as students in our department help you in later life? We present an interesting range of answers in the “Life after North/South Hall” section on page 6. Write in and tell us how YOUR life was affected by having been one of our majors or graduate students.

COMINGS...

Professor Graham Wilson, Department Chair

In August we had the pleasure of welcoming no less than five new faculty members to North Hall.

BARRY BURDEN



Barry Burden and his family are delighted to be in Madison. He is a lifelong Buckeye fan, having earned his Ph.D. at Ohio State in 1998. Over the last seven years he also became a Red Sox devotee while on the faculty at Harvard. His research and teaching are based in American politics, with an emphasis on electoral politics and representation. This fall he will be teaching Political Science 426, The Legislative Process. In the spring he will offer 821, mass political behavior, and a graduate seminar on political behavior.

Barry has written about partisanship, third party campaigns, public attitudes toward political leaders, congressional politics, candidate strategies, and voter turnout. He is co-author of *Why Americans Split Their Tickets: Campaigns, Competition, and Divided Government*, editor of *Uncertainty in American Politics*, and author of a forthcoming book titled *Personal Roots of Representation*. His current projects deal with political polarization in the American public, support for political parties in Japan, and the gender gap.

NILS RINGE



Nils Ringe is excited to continue his cross-country adventures in the United States here in Madison. Nils moved to

Boston from Germany eight years ago to attend college. Since then, his graduate studies have taken him to the University of Pittsburgh, where he received his Ph.D. in 2006. Luckily for his family and friends, Nils' studies still take him back to Europe, as his research centers on the European Union, specifically focusing on its institutions. He is also interested in political parties, legislatures, and elections. Nils is currently working on a book manuscript that re-evaluates the role of political parties in the decision-making processes of the European Parliament. He is also busy teaching PS 338, The European Union: Politics and Political Economy, and an Introduction to Comparative Politics course in the Honors Program (PS 186). In the spring, he will offer a graduate seminar on Comparative Political Institutions.

CHRISTINA EWIG

Christina Ewig has a joint appointment in Women's Studies and Political Science. She teaches courses in women's studies and comparative politics with special interests in Latin American politics, gender and politics, and gender and globalization. Her research centers on gender, race and social policy in Latin America. In her current book manuscript she analyzes the politics of neoliberal health sector reforms and their impacts on women's lives in Peru. She also has a second book project underway which compares the politics of health reforms and their effects on gender equity in Peru, Mexico, Colombia and Chile. In addition to contributions to edited volumes, she has published articles in the Latin American Research Review, Social Politics, and Feminist Studies. Her research has been supported by a Fulbright New Century Scholars award and a Rockefeller residential fellowship.

MARK COPELOVITCH

Mark Copelovitch obtained his Ph.D from Harvard University. He specializes in the study of international financial institutions including the International Monetary Fund and World Bank. Mark won a prestigious post-doctoral fellowship at Princeton for 2005-2006 and started teaching this semester. He also teaches a course for the LaFollette School of Public Affairs.

NADAV SHELEF

Nadav Shelef obtained his Ph.D from the University of California - Berkeley. He specializes in nationalism and Israeli politics. Previously he was a Post Doctoral Visiting Scholar at the Taub Center for Israel Studies at New York University. This semester he will be teaching two courses here: Israeli Politics and Society, as well as Religion and Politics.

....AND GOINGS

We also have said farewell to a number of faculty and emeritus colleagues. Mark Beissinger, my predecessor as chair, has moved to Princeton. We wish him well in his new department.

Two very distinguished former members of the department Austin Ranney (1962-76) and Leon Epstein (1948-88) passed away "plenus annis abiit plenus honoribus." Leon was central to the life of the department in recent decades. Intellectually lively and curious to the end, he was beloved not only by his former students and colleagues who had worked with him but also by subsequent generations of faculty and students who appreciated his friendliness and good humor around North Hall even during the most trying stages of the illness of his beloved wife, Shirley. Raised in Beaver Dam, educated at this University and devoting a career of forty years to it, Leon exemplified the best traditions of Wisconsin. A full appreciation of Leon's career and work begins on page 12 of this newsletter.

It is typical of the loyalty of so many of our distinguished faculty to this department that they have established during their lives or in their estates funds that benefit our students. There are two funds that during her lifetime celebrate Clara Penniman, the "Penniman Opportunity Fund" that assists undergraduates pursuing internships that encourage careers in public service, and a graduate fellowship. The Edelman Fund was established in memory of Murray Edelman, who was an eminent professor in the department from 1966-1990, by his widow, Bacia. It continues his concern for many graduate students by assisting them financially with that crucial first career step of presenting a paper at a major academic conference. The Epstein Graduate Fellowship honors Leon in the manner he himself selected of providing a fellowship to a graduate student. If you wish to make a donation honoring Clara, Murray or Leon, please turn to page 15 for information on how to do so.

LIFE AFTER NORTH/SOUTH HALL

ROBERTA DRAPER

PRODUCER OF CONGRESSIONAL NEWS AT NBC

Roberta Draper had a distinguished career as a journalist covering politics and government for a number of leading newspapers and ended as producer in charge of Congressional news for NBC. She recalls an episode early in her career. You never know when a college course will be useful!

“ I was working for the *Washington Star* covering police, low level courts and generally providing summer vacation and sick leave coverage for other reporters. One day the Editor told me that we needed someone to baby-sit the Supreme Court but that nothing much was going to happen. I was over there when suddenly there was an announcement that a major decision was being handed down. It was the Miranda decision, one of the most famous decisions of the twentieth century! In those days they just handed out the opinions of the Court without any background briefing or explanations. I had 45 minutes to file my story. Thanks to David Fellman’s Constitutional Law I could do it! I was so grateful to him. *The Star* bannered the story and it was crucial in my career.”



DICK CHENEY

VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE 1989-1993

WYOMING REPRESENTATIVE TO THE HOUSE 1978-1989

“ Nearly four decades have passed since I arrived in Madison, master’s degree in hand, to begin Ph.D. studies at the University of Wisconsin. I still remember the satisfaction of being accepted into such a fine program, and I found the coursework, colleagues, and professors to be all that I’d hoped. From the beginning I pictured my future as that of an academic, but through personal associations eventually found myself employed part-time on the staff of Governor Warren P. Knowles, and traveling the state with the Governor on his re-election campaign.

My theoretical and practical interests blended yet again when the Political Science Department helped me to obtain an APSA graduate fellowship in Washington. Soon I was working for Representative William A. Steiger of Wisconsin’s Sixth District-and it was Bill Steiger who set me on a new path by bringing me to the attention of a rising executive branch official named Donald Rumsfeld. I can draw a straight line from my decision to study at the University of Wisconsin to the career in public service that I’ve found so deeply rewarding. To look back on those years in Wisconsin is to draw upon many fine memories- the great intellectual challenges, the warm friendships, and even the birth of my first child. I never did finish that Ph.D., but I’ll always count my arrival in Madison as one of life’s happiest turning points.”

RON BONJEAN

PRESS SECRETARY TO HOUSE SPEAKER DENNIS HASTERT

“When I graduated from Madison in 1993, I packed my bags and drove my car out to Washington, DC. I quickly landed a permanent job as a press secretary on Capitol Hill for a Member of Congress at the young age of 23 years old. Little did I know how much Madison life had prepared me for the political world when Republicans took over Congress in 1994. As a student, not a day went by when there was some kind of political activity, protest or controversy. It was the total immersion of daily living and political classes that shaped my focus towards Capitol Hill. Notably, my East Asian and Chinese political history courses taught by Professor Ed Friedman were a great help in developing my critical thinking. His classes helped convince me that a career in politics was something that I wanted to pursue. Since that time, I have worked as a press secretary for several Members of Congress, including a Senate Majority Leader and a U.S. Secretary of Commerce. Now as the communications director for the Speaker of the House, I can proudly say that all the hard work and long hours paid off.”

RUSS FEINGOLD

US SENATOR 1993-PRESENT



“The UW Political Science Department has had a profound impact on my life in public service, and the way I think about the issues we face in the U.S. Senate every day. The debates and conversations I had in classes more than 30 years ago still come back to me, and they still help to guide my decisions as the Senate deliberates both domestic issues and foreign policy.

The Department brings together students from across Wisconsin and around the world to learn from an outstanding curriculum, and from each other. Coming to UW-Madison, and being a part of the Political Science Department broadened my understanding not just of political science, but of the different cultures and perspectives that shape our world. The Political Science Department was a big part of what made my experience at UW-Madison so exciting and so challenging.

There are so many reasons that the Department has the outstanding reputation that it does. But every political science major, past and present, knows that it's the faculty who make the department what it is. Their dedication, both to the study of political science and to their students, is truly exceptional. They taught me not what to think, but how to think about complex issues, and how different theories can be applied to real-world problems.

I often think back on what I learned, but more often what I learned is simply a part of who I am and the way I think about policy issues. Like so many graduates of the Political Science Department, I'm grateful for the experience I had, the people I met, and the faculty who taught me so much. Especially as we mourn the passing of Leon Epstein, who contributed so much to the Department and to the study of political science, it is clear how much the Department and the faculty have meant to so many students over the years.

The Political Science Department remains one of the most popular departments on campus, and with good reason. I'm proud of my political science degree, and I'm proud of what the Department has contributed to the study of political science, to its students, to the University, and to the state of Wisconsin.”

MIKE B. WITTENWYLER

ATTORNEY AT GODFREY & KAHN

Mike Wittenwyler is an administrative and regulatory attorney at Godfrey & Kahn, S.C., and the lead attorney in the firm's Political Law Group. He regularly advises businesses, trade associations and other organizations in their interactions with government.

“In many ways, my professional work in politics began through the University of Wisconsin Political Science Department and has been forever shaped by my undergraduate experiences.

The Department's reputation was an important factor in deciding to attend the University of Wisconsin. At too many other schools, political science appeared only to be a part of a larger letters and science curriculum. At Wisconsin, the Department had its own identity. Moreover, it became clear to me when considering other colleges that a political science program located in a state capital would provide a greater possibility for hands-on interaction with government and politics.

The opportunities for direct involvement proved to be plentiful. Through the Department's state legislative internship program, I learned how state government functioned. Through my professors, I was introduced to public officials and political professionals. Through directed study projects, I became more involved with particular organizations. Through the Department and my classmates, I became aware of opportunities to volunteer on political campaigns.

(Continued on next page)

(Mike Wittenwyler, continued)

The volunteer experiences led to paid campaign work, a job as a congressional aide and eventually a position as a campaign manager. Through my work in Washington D.C. and in other political settings, I developed the relationships and experiences that provided a foundation for a legal career centered on public policy and politics.

Most notably during my time as a political science student, I spent many hours with dozens of other undergraduates volunteering for an underdog state senator named Russ Feingold. Together, we stuffed envelopes, made phone calls, held up banners, walked in parades and, most importantly, traveled around Wisconsin putting up barn signs. Through all of these volunteer activities for Senator Feingold's first campaign for U.S. Senate, we built relationships with our fellow students that continue to this day.”

JOE PANOS

OFFENSIVE LINEMAN FOR THE PHILADELPHIA EAGLES & BUFFALO BILLS

“I worked hard academically for my degree; it really annoys me when people say that because I was a football player the University just gave it to me. I enjoyed Political Science. I recall particularly enjoying Don Downs's classes, PS 452 Criminal Justice and Constitutional Law, as well as an independent study.

I really enjoyed my time as a student. [I am more conservative than the vast majority of people at the UW but] I liked hearing everyone's point of view; I hate it when people only know their own and don't have a wider perspective.

What I learned at the UW was to prepare. In the NFL when I went on the field I continued to do what I had done for classes: prepare! I never wanted to step onto the field in the NFL without making sure that I had thought hard about everything that could happen and every play the other team might try just as I always wanted to be prepared for my classes and tests. In the end, what I took from university to the NFL was this habit of preparation.”

THE WISCONSIN IDEA: BOUNDARIES OF THE UNIVERSITY ARE...

Professor David T. Canon

On July 27, 2006, President Bush signed into law a 25-year extension of the Voting Rights Act. Originally passed in 1965, the Voting Rights Act is one of the most important pieces of civil rights legislation in U.S. history. Most recently amended in 1982, central provisions of the law were set to expire in 2007. The legislation sailed through Congress with a unanimous 98-0 vote in the Senate and a 390-33 vote in the House. However, these decisive votes on final passage mask the intense debates in congressional committees and last-minute attempts to pass “killer amendments.” For example, a House amendment that would have eliminated a provision in the law requiring multi-lingual ballots in districts with large populations of non-English speakers was defeated by a relatively narrow margin of 238-185. Opponents were also unsuccessful in their attempts to weaken Section 5 of the law, which requires that all changes in election laws and practices in covered jurisdictions be approved by the Justice Department or the district court in Washington, and extend the law for only 10 years instead of 25 years.



About a month before the bill was signed into law, I had the opportunity to testify before the Senate Judiciary Committee. Congressional scholars have described congressional hearings as “political theater,” and my performance was no exception. The witnesses deliver prepared comments, senators ask vetted questions, and there is little opportunity for an extended exchange of ideas. However, the hearing room was packed, the C-SPAN cameras were rolling, and quite a few senators showed up (Senators Brownback, Cornyn, Sessions, and Coburn on the Republican side and Feingold and Kennedy on the Democratic side). Senator Feingold was only able to stay for a few minutes because he was in the middle of a floor debate on troop withdrawal from Iraq. But he said a few nice things about his alma mater, the University of Wisconsin, and his fond memories of the political science depart-

ment, before he had to dash off. There were a few unscripted moments and some of the senators, especially Sam Brownback, seemed to really be paying attention to the arguments that we were presenting.

My testimony was related to issues that I have directly addressed in my research on the representation of racial interests in Congress: the importance of the Voting Rights Act in providing for the representation of minority interests, the importance of Section 5 in ensuring a fair electoral process, and the need to overturn the *Georgia v. Ashcroft* Supreme Court decision. On the latter point, the legislation clarified that the purpose of Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act is to protect the ability of minority citizens to elect their preferred candidates of choice (rather than allowing “ability-to-elect districts” to be traded off for “influence districts,” which is what the *Georgia v. Ashcroft* decision allowed for the first time). I supported this clarification of Section 5 for two reasons: 1) the new “totality of circumstances” test of *Georgia v. Ashcroft* is vague and unworkable and 2) allowing influence districts to be traded off for ability-to-elect districts would erode the gains in descriptive representation that have been made in Congress in the past forty years.

The most intense moment during the day was in the morning when I was preparing my testimony with some lawyers from the Leadership Conference on Civil Rights. As they were coaching me about the various traps that may be set for me during the questioning, someone burst into our conference room with the news that Speaker Dennis Hastert had just pulled the bill from the floor of the House because of opposition from his party. At that point, supporters of the bill thought that it may have died for this legislative session. Given that uncertainty, it was gratifying to see that this landmark piece of legislation was renewed and extended for another 25 years.

HOW I SPENT MY SUMMER VACATION

Professor Michael Schatzberg

When the spring semester finally ended in May I had my summer all planned. The previous summer had been consumed both by a trip to South Africa to present a paper at a conference, and by the necessity of submitting the Title VI grant for federal funding on behalf of the university’s African Studies Program. My agenda got away from me before I knew it. But this summer was going to be different. I had everything planned.

After a bit of rest and relaxation — renewed periodically by the occasional excursion to Miller Park or a leisurely stroll to the terrace, I was going to spend the rest of my time catching up with the newer works in my field, getting back on top of my current research project, and reworking several papers that had languished in the filing cabinet. It was time to get them into print. In a slightly weak moment I had also agreed to write a new paper for a conference in October. My plate was full; my agenda was set; I was looking forward to a calm and productive summer. No courses, no committees, no commotion. Or so I thought.

In early June I received an unexpected e-mail from the Carter Center asking if I would consider joining its team of short-term election observers who were going to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC, formerly Zaïre) toward the end of July. Originally scheduled for 30 June, the elections had been postponed until 30 July. These were to be the first competitive elections in the DRC since 1965. For a student of African politics, especially one who had written several books on the Congo, this was a once-in-a-life-time chance ... or so I tried to persuade my spouse. I found this occasion especially meaningful because the old regime had taken exception to much of what I had written about it, my work had been denounced, and I had been repeatedly denied entry to do additional field research. No visas for critics of the Mobutu regime. I had not been back to the Congo since 1975. I told the Carter Center to sign me up and began a series of frenetic preparations that consumed the better part of a month.

I arrived in Kinshasa, where I was to be stationed, on 25 July. I and another observer were assigned to three of the poorest and politically most radical quarters of the city. We were asked to observe the preparations for the election, monitor the level of party and media activity, and to make assessments as to whether these arrangements favored any single party or individual. In doing this we managed to get caught up in a parade for one of the major opposition candidates that subsequently turned violent. There was an undercurrent of violence throughout the preparations, and UN forces were armed to the teeth and very visible. We also visited individual polling stations to take the measure of the technical preparations for the election.

Election day was stunning. After having witnessed and studied the exploitative excesses of the old regime, seeing people vote in a real election for the first time in their lives was an extraordinary experience. My normal

scholarly skepticism faded on election day as I watched elderly illiterates wrestle with a six-page (poster-sized sheets) legislative ballot that made the butterfly ballots of the 2000 election in the U.S. look simple. Skepticism, however, was reborn two days after the election when my teammate and I discovered a barbecue pit for ballots in one of the areas we had been observing. Conversations with local people, election officials, and police commanders persuaded us that a cover-up — at least at the local level — was in full swing. Within the next several days, other election observer teams discovered the remains of similar bonfires. There were other irregularities as well. Rooting around in the ashes for ballots and vote tallies was not how I had envisaged the process of election monitoring. Nor was it how I had envisaged spending my summer vacation. I returned home on 10 August after having spent two weeks in Kinshasa.

It remains to be seen whether the international community will adjudge these elections free, fair, and transparent. Even more important, it also remains to be seen whether the Congolese electorate will ultimately view these elections as legitimate. In the meantime, all I can say is that even after thirty years Congolese music remains vibrant, Congolese beer is as excellent as I remembered it, and the Congolese people remain friendly and hospitable. They deserve decent elections; I am just not yet certain that they got them.

LONDON INTERNSHIP

Every year Political Science majors serve as interns in the British House of Commons. Chandra Harvey was one. She interned for Harriet Harman, Member of Parliament for Camberwell and Peckham, Minister for Constitutional Affairs.

PREPARING PEOPLE FOR THE WORLD OF WORK

Chandra Nicole Harvey

Many people have asked me what I got out of my experiences spending a summer in London as an intern for a member of the British Parliament. In many ways, it is an easy question to answer. For two months I lived in one of the world's most exciting cities where I was able to feed my passion for history by visiting museums, monasteries, the great manor houses of the 17th century, and castle ruins and by traveling elsewhere in Europe. I was able to work intimately with the British system of Government,

increase my knowledge of its inner workings, and witness the US–UK special relationship in action.

Yet I gained so much more which is beyond the simple expression of words. Thus how can I truly explain what I experienced internally? Can others understand the moments of personal awakening I underwent as I observed the intense passion that drove my MP or as I listened with open ears and an open mind to constituents who shared with me the trials of their lives and their relief as I was able to aid them? Is it possible to describe the immense energy I felt simply walking within the walls of this political “other world,” attending the first Africans for Labour gathering, or watching some of the world's most eloquent leaders zing each other in heated debate? And will it be possible for my friends and family to appreciate how much at home I felt in this charged and adversarial political environment, that I truly hope to find my place among our American counterpart someday, and that, as my experiences in London have taught me, it is possible to use that power to do great good?

London did not change who I am. But more importantly, it helped me gain a much better understanding of myself, my goals, and the person I want to be.



Political Science major Barry Landry interned for Diane Abbott, MP for Mackney and Stoke Newington. Diane was the first black woman in the House of Commons when first elected in 1987. Barry will go on to Law School in 2007.

WASHINGTON INTERNSHIP

The UW Political Science Department's First Annual Summer Washington Internship and Research Program

Erika Franklin Fowler

After a whirlwind eight weeks in the District of Columbia with a group of 15 select students from the University of Wisconsin who interned by day and attended class by night, it's tough to know where exactly to begin in describing our experience. The journey started in November 2005 with an informational meeting on the Department's plans for a new program and began in earnest during January with organizational meetings and one-on-one sessions where we discussed the student's career aspirations and where they might want to intern during the summer.

In helping the students to prepare résumés and cover letters, which for many was their first professional application, I was impressed by their varied experiences and passion for politics. What was originally a congressional course quickly evolved into an exploration of the political and policy-making processes (broadly defined) as students secured internships in legislative (both House and Senate), bureaucratic, lobbying or governmental relations, and foreign affairs related offices.

In discussing the long-term vision of the program with the Department and the University Foundation and creating the curriculum for this summer, I sought to utilize this unique opportunity to bring theory and practice together. Therefore, not only were the course readings and class assignments designed to make students think about whether or not scholarly theories comport with the experiences and observations from their respective internship offices, but the academic study was supplemented by a series of guest lectures and panels made possible through the support of distinguished alumni in the DC area. I was overwhelmed by the generosity of numerous UW alums who gave their time, offered their conference rooms, and hosted social events. These activities gave the students an unparalleled opportunity to hear from and ask questions of experts from a broad range of political and policy backgrounds about how they view the political processes in the nation's capitol.

As the culminating project of the program, each of the students was required to complete a final research project that ideally combined their own interests with something that would be useful to their office. Throughout the summer, I encouraged students to use their research as a perfect opportunity to seek out one-on-one meetings with speakers and other policy experts. In doing so, students became increasingly comfortable and increasingly sophisticated in articulating arguments and drafting political strategies. This confidence was evident in the 'expert' oral briefings each student gave during the final class period, where I had the pleasure of listening to four plus hours of presentations that were extremely insightful, informative, engaging, and a phenomenal learning experience. Perhaps even more impressive was their ability to respond to challenging questions from their peers with poise and thoughtful rebuttals.

The transformation in students' confidence over the course of the program was truly remarkable, and while I would like to take credit for the success of the program, none of it would have been possible without the support and encouragement of the Department, the University Foundation, and the amazing generosity of the UW alumni network in DC. In addition to the numerous individuals who served as panelists, guest speakers, and mentors, I am especially indebted to those who hosted dinners, and graciously offered conference rooms for meeting space and to three legislative offices (Senator Kohl, Congressman Kind, and Congresswoman Baldwin) for scheduling rooms at a moment's notice.

I was proud to be a part of the inaugural summer program, and I look forward to watching it grow and establish a permanent presence in Washington, DC.

STUDENT RESPONSE

Lindsey Mischka, DC Intern

Thank you for everything you have done to make this Washington Internship program a success. This summer I received invaluable advice about my future, met amazing people, and experienced many great things. The knowledge I have gained will help a lot in my classes at UW and in Law School. Thank you again for all of your hard work!

CONGRESSIONAL RESPONSE (NEXT PAGE)



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 109th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

House of Representatives

THE HONORABLE TAMMY BALDWIN

Extension of Remarks

On the First Annual UW Summer Washington Program

July 25, 2006

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Wisconsin, the Political Science Department, and the student participants on the creation and completion of the first annual UW Summer Washington Program. This invaluable opportunity was made possible by the generous support of many UW alumni.

The 15 undergraduate students were selected through a competitive application process and are interning in various offices on Capitol Hill. They are gaining experience in legislative offices, lobbying firms, the Department of Justice, and several foreign policy offices, while also participating in a Political Science course. Guest speakers and hosts, all of whom are UW alumni, have been in attendance at each class session offering priceless and practical advice to the students.

This program would not have been possible without the support of the Wisconsin alumni who have helped in funding, organizing social events, and speaking to the class. The UW Foundation, in collaboration with the Department of Political Science, has worked with alumni to get this program off the ground in hopes that it will be available to future undergraduate students. The goal of this program is to establish a permanent presence for the University of Wisconsin in Washington, D.C.

I am proud to rise today to pay tribute to the establishment of this exceptional opportunity. It is truly an honor for me to represent the students, the alumni, and the University of Wisconsin on this occasion, and wish them the best of luck in the successful continuation of this important program.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Penniman Opportunity Fund enables students who otherwise could not afford to take advantage of internship opportunities to do so. Please see page 15 for information on how to contribute.



Washington D.C. interns at the Lockheed Martin Flight Demonstration Center hosted by UW Alum and Board Of Visitors member Dr. Robert Trice. Picture courtesy of Lindsey Mischka.

GREAT TEACHING CONTINUES!

The last issue of this newsletter focused on the department's teaching. After that newsletter went to press, our faculty notched up another three awards.

Kathy Cramer Walsh and **Howard Schweber** both pulled off the accomplishment of winning University teaching awards (in Howard's case the Kiekhoffer Teaching Award) in the year they gained tenure, thus illustrating once again that great research and great teaching go hand-in-hand.

Ken Mayer won a University of Wisconsin System teaching award (for which all UW campuses compete), again illustrating the link between great teaching and research by being selected as the first-ever Fulbright Distinguished Professorship in Australia. Ken is currently at Australian National University on his Fulbright and devotes some of his spare time to mastering the rules of Australian Football!

MEET US ON THE ROAD!

Thanks to the generosity of our Board of Visitors, the department teams with the Alumni Association to bring our great faculty out to talk around the nation.

This year we'll be taking Kathy Cramer Walsh to **New York** in October to discuss women in politics; Ken Goldstein and Charles Franklin to **New York** for a breakfast meeting the morning after the November elections to discuss the results; Tamir Moustafa and Nadav Shelef to talk about the future of the Middle East in **Milwaukee** and **Chicago** in November; and Leigh Payne to **Los Angeles** and **San Francisco** to talk about consolidating democracy in February.

Watch WAA mailings for times, dates and places!

IN MEMORIAM: LEON EPSTEIN

In August, the Department lost one of its most famous and beloved members. Here we print some of the many tributes paid. Those who wish to commemorate Professor Epstein may wish to contribute to the Epstein Graduate Student Fund. (Please see page 15)

PROFESSOR BYRON SHAFER

DRAWING ON BERNARD COHEN, CHARLES O. JONES, FRANK SORAUF, JOHN WITTE, & CRAWFORD YOUNG:

Leon D. Epstein died on Tuesday, August 1, 2006, as the result of injuries suffered in a fall at home two days earlier. He was a scholar of international repute in the realm of political parties, a central figure in the postwar re-creation of the Department of Political Science at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, as well as a former president of the American Political Science Association and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He was also such a shaping influence on generations of undergraduates, grad students, and professional colleagues at the University of Wisconsin that an appropriate obituary seems an impossibility.

Leon was born on May 29, 1919, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, though he grew up in Beaver Dam, a town where, as he wryly noted, the great enemy of the locals in his youth was not the rising fascist or communist states of the wider world but the Wisconsin DNR, the Department of Natural Resources, known locally as “damned near Russian.” He came to Madison, to the University of Wisconsin, in 1936 to begin his undergraduate career, a career that would be closely entwined with that university ever after. He received a B.A. from UW-Madison in economics in 1940, an M.A. in economics in 1941, and then left for military service.

Stationed in Britain for two of those years, Leon used any spare time to immerse himself in the details of British politics, managing to cap his war-time service with a term at Oxford. Returning to the U.S., he enrolled for a Ph.D. in political science at the University of Chicago, obtained in 1948. After Chicago, he accepted a one-year teaching post at the University of Oregon in 1947–1948, returning to the Department of Political Science at the University of Wisconsin at Madison the following year. He would remain on the Madison faculty until his retirement in 1988. While still at Chicago, he met and married Shirley (Galewitz) Epstein, to whose care he was devoted in his later years and who preceded him in death in 2001.

The official history of the Department of Political Science at UW-Madison (2006) notes that “the resurrection of comparative politics really began in 1948, with the recruitment of Leon Epstein and Henry Hart.” Oddly, in that context, his dissertation was a judicial biography of William O. Douglas—on grounds that this was the quickest route to a Ph.D.!—and he actually presented the sub-fields of political theory, public administration, and public law at his prelims. But the Department of Political Science at UW was flexible in its wishes and needs; Leon had acquired a substantial acquaintance with British politics; and Frederic Ogg, who had long taught the politics of both Britain and the Continent, was retiring. So comparative politics was where Leon began.

The department of political science was in the process of reorienting itself to feature research and publication as central to promotion, and Leon produced articles on British politics for the *American Political Science Review*, *Political Science Quarterly*, and *Public Administration Review*. A year back in Britain on a grant from the Ford Foundation then generated his first book, *Britain—Uneasy Ally* (University of Chicago Press, 1954). It was already clear that, in Leon’s own words, “as a comparativist, I was an Americanist,”: he was one of those scholars who found the sub-field distinction between American Politics and Comparative Politics to be not just artificial, but intellectually harmful.

As if to underline this perception, Leon’s next book was *Politics in Wisconsin* (University of Wisconsin Press, 1958). Besides testifying to the breadth of his interests, it reaffirmed his general approach: close observation in person, striving toward theoretical generalization. He followed that by bouncing back across the Atlantic with *British Politics in the Suez Crisis* (University of Illinois Press, 1964), which confirmed his status as a leading American student of British politics.

Yet the notion of “Comparativist as Americanist” was best affirmed in his hugely influential *Political Parties in Western Democracies* (Praeger, 1967). In this landmark in the comparative study of parties, Leon inserted the United States directly into the comparison with the major states of Europe, an approach for which he had always argued. In the process, he addressed the central themes of a leading alternative, Maurice Duverger’s *Political Parties* (Armand Colin, 1951), either modifying or dissenting from nearly all of it. For Leon, the world had become a different place from the one in which Duverger’s arguments arose,

so that American political parties were less like backward outliers, more like modern incarnations of an evolving institution that was more attuned to contemporary society than the Duverger model could ever be.

By then, Leon had long since become associate professor (1951), then full professor (1958), then Chair of the department (1960–1963). By the time *Political Parties in Western Democracies* appeared, he was actually dean of the College of Letters and Sciences, one of the largest such enterprises in the country. Leon held that position during times of great turmoil on the Madison campus: 1965–1969. He is remembered as bringing the same personal qualities to that post as he had brought to the Department of Political Science and to his own work, namely, an un-failing thoughtfulness, a determination to treat everyone even-handedly, a willingness to listen, and, above all, a desire to see the university—and hence scholarly life—prosper.

By all accounts, Leon handled a difficult job with great skill, making him a logical candidate for provost or chancellor in the longer run. Yet as Bernard Cohen, a departmental colleague who later followed that route into the provostship, notes, Leon did his duty but found that he did not really enjoy it—“He had more than a few meetings drowned out by shouting protesters on the Hill”—and returned instead to the Department of Political Science. Characteristically, given his way of working and thinking, his next book was: *Governing the University: The Campus and the Public Interest* (Jossey-Bass, 1974).

In the years after his return to the department, Leon became president first of the Midwest Political Science Association, 1971–1972, then of the American Political Science Association, 1978–1979. His presidential address of that year, “What Happened to the British Party Model?” (*American Political Science Review* 74 (1980): 9–22) returned to the British-American comparison, this time in the context of scholarly perspectives on it, and offered a gentle scolding to professional colleagues for their attachment to models that either appealed because they suited the prejudices of their proponents or that were already outdated in the face of the social change around them.

His final book, and the other one to have a lasting impact on the discipline, arrived in 1986 and continued his evolution toward thinking about American politics within the comparative framework. This was *Political Parties in the American Mold* (University of Wisconsin Press, 1986), and this time it sought a self-consciously American model

with which other party systems could potentially be compared. Arguing that American politics, and especially the party system at its core, could not be understood either by way of some abstracted European model or in terms of a model derived from its own distant history, Leon developed the metaphor of political parties as “public utilities” to elucidate the American case. In this, a distinctive political culture, a distinctive constitutional structure, and, most particularly, the central place of primary elections as the key intermediary institution, came together to create an American resolution.

Leon retired in 1988, but his presence remained a major thread of continuity in the Department of Political Science. He continued to read—and argue—widely. He attended department and campus events, listened patiently, and always had a question, often one attempting to take the speaker back to basics. Most importantly, he continued that style of personal collegiality and positive intellectual tone that was so important in giving the department its reputation as an eclectic but supportive environment. Accordingly, writing about Leon’s passing is difficult in a diagnostic way: everyone has his or her own favorite “Leon story.” All, however, feature the same man: ever courteous and always thoughtful; committed to the application of intelligence to social life, whether it be British politics, university administration, American politics, or career pathways; reliably concerned that the central mission—of the Department of Political Science or the University of Wisconsin—remain front and center, guiding policy decisions.

Leon was in robust good health at the time of his death. He quit playing tennis competitively only three years ago, having decided (again characteristically) that his game no longer measured up to his standards. Nevertheless, he had thought carefully about his own eventual demise, leaving instructions that there be no funeral and no memorial event. He himself recognized the support of graduate students in his will, however, and his colleagues have decided that creation of a Leon D. Epstein Graduate Fellowship would have struck him as an acceptable memorial. Anyone who wishes to contribute to that memorial can send a check made out to the “University of Wisconsin Foundation” and marked “In Memoriam Leon Epstein” to Professor Graham Wilson, Chairman, Department of Political Science, 110 North Hall, 1050 Bascom Mall, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706-1389.

SENATOR RUSSELL D. FEINGOLD ON THE LIFE OF LEON EPSTEIN

Senator Feingold made the following remarks on the floor of the US Senate on August 4, 2006:

Mr. FEINGOLD: Mr. President, today I want to honor the memory of Leon Epstein, someone who contributed a great deal to the University of Wisconsin and the study of political science, and someone I was proud to know.

Leon, who passed away on Tuesday, was a native Wisconsinite who gave back to our state through his dedicated work both as a scholar and an administrator at UW.

Born in 1919 in Beaver Dam, he went on to study at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he earned a B.A. and then an M.A. in economics. He then spent virtually his entire academic career on the Madison campus, where for forty years he was a beloved fixture in the Political Science Department - a department from which I was proud to graduate. He made an impact on countless students as he taught introductory courses and supervised doctoral dissertations for four decades.

Throughout his life, Leon remained dedicated to his own research and independent work. He received many prestigious fellowship grants and published six books. He was widely recognized for his book *Political Parties in Western Democracies*, which received the first book award from the Political Organizations and Parties Section of the American Political Science Association. He also served as president of the Midwest Political Science Association, the British Politics Group, and the American Political Science Association.

Leon also held the position of Dean of the College of Letters and Science from 1965 to 1969. In every capacity, Leon earned the respect and friendship of those with whom he worked. He was someone I admired, both for who he was and for the many outstanding contributions he made to the study of political science. He leaves behind a great legacy. People will study his work for many, many years to come. And those of us who knew him will remember a man of tremendous character who gave so much to a university and a state that he loved. He will be greatly missed.

REPRESENTATIVE GARY HEBL: PROFESSOR EPSTEIN'S DEDICATION TO HIS STUDENTS IS AN UNFORGETTABLE LEGACY.

A letter to the editor of the *Capital Times*, published Aug. 14, 2006:

Dear Editor: It is with great sadness that I write this letter in honor of the passing of Professor Leon Epstein. I was struck with great pain that his obituary read he left no survivors. Although Epstein may not have had any biological heirs, he certainly had many survivors who fondly remember his magnificent teaching ability.

Epstein was one of my first political science professors at UW-Madison. He made the subject matter so interesting that I changed my major from journalism to political science and graduated with that degree. He was a special man who provided tremendous insight and personal experience to the subject at hand. He was an excellent mentor and a superb role model.

Epstein took a sincere interest in his students and their futures. He provided answers to many questions presented by me and classmates concerning not only political science but life in general.

In one course, Politics and American Government, the subject of going into politics was thoroughly discussed. I left those discussions with a clear belief that I would never enter politics because one would have to live in a glass bowl and be subject to criticism from all quarters. The alternative position was that you could serve in public office and effect social change in the most direct manner. After many years of maturation, I have selected the latter option.

Epstein was one of the many people at the UW-Madison who had a great effect on me. With their influence, one cannot help but develop a great affection for such a great institution of higher learning.

Several years ago, I had a chance meeting with Epstein at Bagels Forever. He asked me by name how I was doing and if I was achieving my life's goals. Needless to say, it caught me by surprise, but reconfirmed the dedication this wonderful man had toward all of his students.

Epstein may not have had any biological survivors, but he influenced and touched many lives in a way that his legacy will not soon be forgotten.

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Please consider making a tax-deductible annual gift to the University of Wisconsin Foundation for the benefit of the Political Science Department. Even small donations help keep efforts like this newsletter going. Your contribution is fully deductible, and many employers have matching gift programs that can double the effect of your gift. Thanks for your help!

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Please send news about yourself, recollections of your experiences in the department, or suggestions on future issues of the North Hall News to gwilson@polisci.wisc.edu.



Paperback copies of Crawford Young's new book, *Political Science at UW-Madison, A Centennial History* are now available! For more information or to order a copy, please visit <http://polisci.wisc.edu/historybook>

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