

January 2014 Newsletter

Political Science

Student News



Savannah Hostetter has been accepted into The Fund for American Studies Program this coming summer in Washington, D.C., and will study in the Engalitcheff Institute on Comparative Political and Economic Systems.

Congratulations to the 24 POLS and CJ students who made Dean's Honor Roll in Fall 2013!!!

APPLY FOR THE UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FESTIVAL

Abstract submission is now open for the ACU Undergraduate Research Festival, annually held for students to present their research. Outstanding Presentation Awards are given out in several categories. Abstracts must be submitted by January 31. See more at <http://blogs.acu.edu/researchfest>. Two submissions from our Department are already in—Stewart McGregor has submitted his paper (separately submitted also for publication) “Streamlined Bureaucracy: A Comparative Study of the E-Government System of the United Arab Emirates Relating to the Petroleum Services Industry.” Amanda Bitner is submitting a poster entry, “Art and Civil Disobedience in Iran.”

Alumni News

April Hutsell ('04) is leaving ACU's Student Financial Services to be a stay-at-home mom and look after Ava Grace.

Jeremy Gudgel ('07) is now Captain in the U.S. Marines.

Kim Tan ('10) has passed the Maryland Bar.

Andrew McFarlin ('13) has taken a job as legal assistant in Colorado Springs, CO in the El Paso County District Attorney's Office.

Congratulations to New Highway Patrol Trooper Reed Watson ('13), sworn in on December 20, 2013. He is pictured below after completion of the DPS training academy in Austin with his father, Commissioner Randy Watson. Trooper Watson will begin his career in Mount Pleasant. He also says to his primary professor, Kelly Knight, in the Department, “Thank you for the preparation that your classes gave me. You have played an essential role in the beginning of my new career.”



DPS Commissioner Randy Watson and Trooper Reed Watson

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ACU Peace Conference

The POLS Department will join the Duncum Center for Conflict Resolution to sponsor the 2014 ACU Peace Conference on Monday, March 3. Featured speaker is Lisa Shannon, who wrote the best seller “A Thousand Sisters: My Journey into the Worst Place on Earth to be a Woman.” She is an advocate for women in the Congo region of Africa.

Visiting Committee March 28

The Department welcomes the next visit from our Visiting Committee, to be held on March 28.

Pope Fellows Guest Speaker

Angela Lello will be with the Department on March 24-25 and will speak at a dinner for Pope Fellows on that Monday and lunch again with the Pope Fellows the next day at 11:45. Angela is a 2002 graduate of the Department of Political Science and received a Master’s in Public Affairs from the LBJ School of Public Affairs. She has worked as a policy analyst at the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services, served as the Public Policy Director of the Texas Council for Developmental Disabilities, and currently works in Washington, D.C. as a Senior Analyst at the Medicaid and CHIP Payment and Access Commission. Angela will provide a wealth of knowledge about the public policy process as well as ideas about careers in the public sector.

**Save the Date:
Department BBQ**

On April 24 at 5:30 p.m., please plan to be at the Department Dinner at Dr. Coates’ home. Make sure you put this fun, annual event on you calendar now, and remember this is when the Department honors our graduating seniors.

Faculty News

Stuart Platt is now a commissioned peace officer with the ACU Police Department, serving in a reserve and advisory role.

Mel Hailey again served as a state judge for the “We the People” state competition on January 11 in Austin. The contest is sponsored by the State Bar of Texas Law Related Education Division and the Center for Civic Education.

Internship Opportunity

REP. TED POE’S OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Representative Poe’s Office is looking for an ACU intern for every semester and summer. Congressman Poe is an alumnus of ACU. If you or anyone you know (and of any major) may be interested please have them contact his Office.

Apply for Law School Scholarships

Pre-law students who are applying to Baylor Law School and Pepperdine Law School are encouraged to pick up applications in the Department for scholarships to those two schools. Application deadlines will be announced soon.

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INTERNSHIPS AVAILIABLE AT IRC

Lisa Marciniak is the Volunteer Coordinator at the International Rescue Committee in Abilene, and writes “We know that you students are busy preparing for the start of school next week and hope that it is going well. As our collaboration with numerous ACU departments in the past has led to successful internships, we wanted to send an invitation to any students who may be interested in completing an internship this school year. We already have numerous interns scheduled to begin the school year with us; however we realize that for others they may decide this within the very first of the semester.

The International Rescue Committee responds to the world’s worst humanitarian crises and helps people to survive and rebuild their lives. Founded in 1933 at the request of Dr. Albert Einstein, the IRC offers lifesaving care and life-changing assistance to refugees forced to flee from war or disaster. At work today in over 40 countries and in 22 U.S. cities, the IRC restores safety, dignity and hope to millions who are uprooted and struggling to endure. The IRC leads the way from harm to home.

Our office is quite diverse and includes the following departments that may meet the needs of student interests: Immigration, Case Management, Health and Wellness Case Management, Employment, Individual Development Account, Volunteer, Resource Development, Donations and ESL/Civics. Thank you for your interest, and if you should have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.”

NEW ELECTIVE FOR CJ STUDENTS

Criminal Justice students have the opportunity to enroll (and three did!) this semester for the first time in IT 440 Advanced Security, taught by Rob Byrd in ACU's I-School.

The course examines the 10 interdependent knowledge domains of the Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP) Common Body of Knowledge (CBK): Information Security and Risk Management, Security Architecture and Design, Telecommunications and Network Security, Operations Security, Cryptography, Physical Security, Software Development Security, Access Control, Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery, and Planning, Legal, Regulations, Compliance, and Investigation. The second part of the course consists of three two-week projects that students will individually select from a list or arrange with the instructor. Projects will range from specific research within a CISSP domain to security case studies to malware reverse engineering. Available during the course are cyber forensic on-site checklists and pamphlets, penetration testing toolkits, Wireshark tutorials, and other resources. Hopefully this course will continue to be offered on a regular basis for IT and CJ students.

**MAKE SOME MONEY
FILL THE RESUME**

Ronald Reagan Symposium Essay Contest. The details are at www.regent.edu/acad/schgov/events/symposium14/essay_contest.cfm. The contest, sponsored by Regent University, is open to graduate, undergraduate, and high school students on the 50th anniversary of Ronald Reagan's "A Time For Choosing" speech.

Juniors (graduating May 2015) may enter another contest. The **Thomas Pickering Undergraduate Foreign Affairs Fellowship** is for students interested in the Foreign Service. See <http://woodrow.org/fellowships/pickering/#about>

CONSIDER A PUBLIC MANAGEMENT CAREER!!

Dr. Robert Bland of the University of North Texas forwarded this information for students who may be considering a career in public service. The first is a recent article in the **North Texan** on "Reviving Communities" that profiles several MPA graduates who are rebuilding blighted neighborhoods. The second is a Web release by a newly formed organization, Emerging Local Government Leaders, on the local government specialization at UNT.

http://northtexas.unt.edu/content/making-difference-2/?utm_source=northtexasnewsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=northtexaswinter2013

<http://elgl.org/2014/01/16/campus-university-north-texas-mpa-program>

POVERTY CURE SMALL GROUP CHAPEL, THURSDAYS RM. 130 BIBLE

Students are invited to Bible Building Rm. 130 every Thursday this semester during Chapel to address the question of world poverty and what Christians can and should do to alleviate it. Throughout the first six weeks of the semester, a series of videos will be presented from Poverty Cure, seeking solutions fostering opportunity and unleashing the entrepreneurial spirit in developing countries. The video series was co-written by Dr. Jonathan Witt, a 1989 ACU alumnus and research fellow at the Acton Institute in Grand Rapids, Mich., a Christian/free market think tank. The series should be of interest to students studying economics and entrepreneurship, politics and international relations, theology, media, and other areas.