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GOVERNMENT & POLITICS

SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY

To Our Political Science Alumni:

We trust that life is treating you well and that you continue to keep in contact with your classmates and friends from Sacred Heart University. And of course we have no doubt that you are carefully tracking the 2012 presidential election contest. Will President Obama win reelection despite an unemployment rate of over 8 percent and a public approval rating slightly below 50 percent? Polls show the President and Mitt Romney in a statistical dead heat. From all indications, ten toss up states will determine the election. It's going to be a close race, and the results will have dramatic policy consequences.

Once again, there are a number of very positive and interesting developments that have taken place within the Department of Government and Politics that we would like to share with you in our annual newsletter.



Also, note that we have once again included a pledge card for the Dr. John F. Kikoski Scholarship. Please consider making a donation, large or small, to this special scholarship fund established in honor of our distinguished Professor Emeritus, Dr. "K." The scholarship money is awarded to a senior in Political Science and based largely on academic merit.

Please keep in touch and share with us any information you would like included in future newsletters.

Stay well ---- and be sure to vote!

Gary L. Rose, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Government and Politics
roseg@sacredheart.edu

OUTSTANDING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

2012 Graduates – A Banner Year for Acceptances

We graduated approximately 25 Political Science majors, ten of whom have been accepted to law school or graduate school. Here is what we know so far:

Maria Da Silva - *New England School of Law*

James Eagan - *Florida Coastal School of Law*

Samantha Fasanello - *Seton Hall School of Law* - waitlisted at *George Washington* and *Temple*

Charles Fleck - *University of Houston graduate school*

Melissa Hancock - *Vanderbilt School of Law* (full scholarship)

Katie Nichols - *Michigan State School of Law*

James Piazza - *New York University graduate school*

Brittany Sawyer - *Suffolk University School of Law*

Shushana Tracey - *Western New England School of Law* (full scholarship)

Kathleen Wysocki - *SUNY at Buffalo School of Law*

SPECIAL AWARDS AND HONORS

Katie Nichols - *Gold Medal of Excellence* – Katie was a double major in Political Science and English, and earned a minor in the university’s Honors program. She also authored an award winning essay in the Religious Freedom Essay Contest sponsored by the Knights of Malta. She was presented with an Apple iPad2 for her outstanding writing. Katie was also this year’s recipient of the Evelyn Conley Memorial Scholarship Award for Legal Studies presented to an outstanding student who plans to attend law school.

Samantha Fasanello – *Silver Medal of Excellence* – Samantha majored in Political Science, minored in Criminal Justice, and earned a second minor in the university’s Honors program. “Sam” was also the recipient of the Doug Bohn Unsung Hero Award at the Campus Life Leadership Awards, and she was named “Best in Class: Seniors” at the Annual Service and Ministry Banquet.

Congratulations to our Political Science Honor Society Inductees!

Nine students were inducted into the Pi Sigma Alpha Honor Society on April 19th. Nick Kapoor, a Political Science alumnus and local town Chairman (see article Page 4), served as the guest speaker. Nick spoke of his entry into local and state politics, as well as the challenges and rewards of public service. This year’s inductees were:

Olivia Civardi	Danielle Gaburo
Robert Cowan	Stephen Hanshaw
Karlie Dean	Ryan Neumann
Jessie DiMuzio	Michael Peterson
Charles Fleck	



DR. GARY ROSE NAMED 2011 PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR

Dr. Gary Rose was named 2011 Connecticut Professor of the Year by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). Dr. Rose was selected from nearly 300 top professors nominated by colleges and universities throughout the United States.

Dr. Rose joined the Sacred Heart University faculty in 1982 and is currently chairman of the Department of Government and Politics. He is passionate about introducing students to the political system and how it operates. "My inspiration comes from a firm belief that students can, if they so desire, make a profound difference in American politics. I believe in the old axiom that 'knowledge is power.' So, in essence, my mission as a university professor is to objectively expand the political knowledge of my students so they in turn can participate effectively in the political process and help shape public policy," Dr. Rose said. "I'm very proud of the large number of graduates from our political science program who have, in one form or another, entered public service and are working for the common good.

The award was presented at a luncheon held in the Newseum in Washington, D.C. and followed by a congressional reception at the Folger-Shakespeare Library.

THE DR. JOHN F. KIKOSKI SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

This year's winner of the Dr. John F. Kikoski Scholarship Award is Charles Fleck. "CJ" as he is known, intends to pursue a career as a Political Science professor. He also excelled as a member of the university's fencing team for four years. CJ has been accepted into the Political Science graduate program at the University of Houston. Previous winners of this scholarship, which is named in honor of our revered and retired Political Science colleague, include Heather Falsetti and Whitney Wildman (co winners in 2010), and Nick Kapoor (2011). Please consider making a contribution, large or small, to this scholarship. The scholarship is applied directly to the student's account. Pledge cards and a return envelope are included with the newsletter for your benefit. Thank you for your generosity.

Internships

The mission of the Department of Government and Politics is to prepare students for public service. To that end, we continue to maintain a very active and educational internship program. During AY 2011-12, Political Science students served as interns at the Connecticut State Capitol, the U.S. District Attorney's Office, law offices, and a local police department. We also placed a student on a Bridgeport mayoral campaign, and several students are working this summer on congressional and senate campaign staffs. Most of our students who serve as interns receive academic credit for their experience. Our internships have also served as useful stepping stones to public service careers.

Alumni in the Political Arena

Jeff Guillot '04 has been appointed Assistant City Manager of the City of Long Beach, N.Y. He is also an adjunct faculty member at Suffolk County Community College where he teaches State and Local Government. Jeff is the Co-Founder of CausePAC, a 527 organization dedicated to supporting progressive candidates under the age of 40 for public office.

POLITICAL SCIENCE ALUMNUS BECOMES MONROE TOWN COUNCIL CHAIR

Nick Kapoor '11 was recently selected as the Democratic Chairman for the town of Monroe, Connecticut. Nick is the one of youngest party chairmen in the state of Connecticut. He is also a member of the Monroe Town Council. As the chairman of his local party, Nick led his town's delegation to the Democratic State Convention on May 12, 2012, where he announced his town's delegate vote for the party's candidates for U.S. Senate. For this year's newsletter, I asked Nick to provide an account of his first convention experience. His fascinating narrative follows:

As I walked up to Kaiser Hall on the Central Connecticut State University campus, I had no idea what to expect. And then I saw it, 1800+ Democrats in one place; I thought I had died and gone to heaven. I got my credentials and as Monroe's Chair, the "packet." I walked onto the floor of the convention searching for Monroe. Someone pointed me to the bleachers because the 2nd and 4th CDs were in the bleachers and the 1st, 3rd and 5th CDs were on the floor. Monroe was in the nosebleed seats. We were literally 3 rows from the back wall. Monroe doesn't have too much pull in the Democratic Party since it is quite a Republican town.



The ceremonies started with all the fanfare of a convention. Senator Blumenthal gave opening remarks, dignitaries were introduced and housekeeping rules were adopted. Governor Malloy nominated Chris Murphy who was seconded by State Senator Beth Bye. Susan Bysiewicz and Matthew Oakes were also nominated. Lee Whitnum didn't show and wasn't nominated.

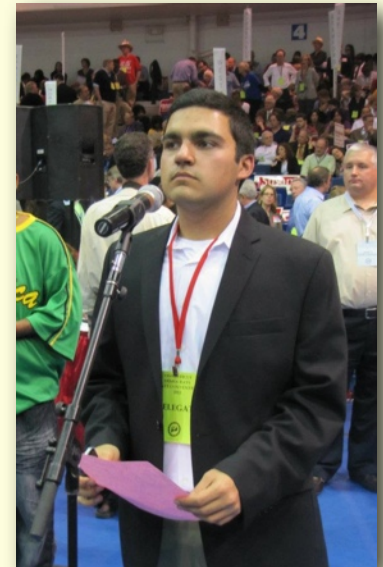
Both campaigns had excellent floor operations. I, personally, was wavering right up until I announced the vote. I was contacted by at least 3 or 4 representatives from each campaign. Also, they broke it down by CD, so each campaign had representatives stay with each CD, since that's how we were seated, to make sure their whip counts were what they were expecting. Governor Malloy, Lt. Governor Wyman and State Rep William Tong were all making their rounds making sure the delegates knew which candidate they favored and therefore which candidate the delegates should favor.

The next step was the roll call. The rules committee of the DSCC voted a few nights prior to call up each town alphabetically by CD starting with the 1st and ending with the 5th. At the end of each CD, the Chairs would be able to come up and change their delegation's votes if delegates had changed. After the 1st CD, Susan was not trailing by as much as I thought she would be, but then after Windsor Locks was called, Berlin and I believe one other town changed their votes to favor Murphy. As I was waiting in line to announce Monroe's total, I had representatives from both campaigns check back to make sure we were absolutely final – like I said, two commendable floor operations. I announced Monroe's total and then the 5th CD finished up. One last round of the opportunity to change followed for each CD and the roll call was over.

Congressman Chris Murphy took 1,378 (75.59%) delegates, former Secretary of State Susan Bysiewicz took 444 (24.36%) and Matthew Oakes took 1 (0.05%) delegate. The person who seconded Oakes's nomination didn't even vote for him. Monroe was the only municipality in the 4th CD to award a majority of its delegates to Bysiewicz. Bysiewicz took the majority or all of the delegates in only 23 out of 169 towns and cities across Connecticut. Some were ties and then Murphy took the majorities or the entire delegations of the rest. Also, the 5th district went almost exclusively to Chris Murphy. Bysiewicz's hometown of Middletown split 22 – 6. One would think if Chris Murphy could carry his entire congressional district, but Bysiewicz couldn't even win all of the delegates in her hometown, then perhaps she's in more trouble than some think. It'll be interesting to see how close the primary numbers are to the convention total. Will Murphy win the primary 75% – 25%? Is the

nominating convention a good harbinger of the primary?

After the tally was announced, the Murphy campaign stormed the stage to wait to hear from the party's nominee. Susan's team formed a circle around her holding up Bysiewicz signs and chanting Susan and cheering. However, Chris Murphy's congratulatory music started blasting throughout the hall and the Bysiewicz team left the floor.



Overall, it was an amazing day. Being one of the youngest Town Chairs – if not the youngest in the State – I was truly honored to be able to represent Monroe at the microphone. The camaraderie that is felt by having all of your fellow party members in one room is really an amazing feeling. As far as the candidates, they were both extremely impressive. The way the "floor was worked" was very interesting to see right in front of my own eyes; "politics" at work. Or perhaps you could say "working the convention floor" is almost the politics of politics. It was also interesting to see how Governor Malloy could walk up to a delegate who was wavering, shake his or her hand, talk to them for a few minutes, and change their vote to Murphy after months of the Bysiewicz campaign probably working on that person. The Governor was king-like in his presence at the convention. I would suspect this to be the case when there is a Republican Governor at a Republican convention, but it was really a sight to see. In conclusion, I had an amazing day and can't wait for the 2014 convention!

Faculty Scholarship

The Department's four full-time faculty continue to be very active with respect to new course development, student mentoring, and publishing within their respective academic fields. We are exceptionally proud of the Political Science faculty's sustained commitment to teaching excellence and professional scholarship. A listing of the faculty's activity follows:

Lesley DeNardis, Ph.D. published two refereed articles: "The Politics of Reorganizing Connecticut State Government: Altering Administrative Structures in the Land of Steady Habits" (2011), *Journal of Public Administration and Governance, Vol. 1*; and "Keeping the Lid on Charter Schools: The Politics of Education Reform in Connecticut" (2012), *New England Journal of Political Science*. She also delivered a lecture on educational policy in Connecticut for the Sacred Heart University Center for Urban Policy and Action. This was the inaugural event of this recently established institute. She continues to serve on the Hamden Board of Education and the Advisory Board of Sacred Heart Academy in Hamden, Connecticut. And a big congratulations to Dr. DeNardis for receiving tenure and promotion at Sacred Heart University.

Alka Jauhari, Ph.D. published a refereed article: "Africa's Economic Resurgence: Is it Possible?" *Africa Review* (2012). And congratulations to Dr. Jauhari for receiving her 15 year service award at the Founder's Day Ceremony in April.

Steve Michels, Ph.D. continued to make sustained progress on his book-length manuscript titled *The Case Against Democracy*. He also authored a reflective essay regarding his sabbatical leave for the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

Gary L. Rose, Ph.D. published his tenth book titled *Connecticut's Fourth Congressional District: History, Politics and the Maverick Tradition*. A book signing and public delivery in the university's library accompanied the release of his latest work. He continues to serve as a guest speaker regarding the 2012 election for civic organizations throughout the state, and served as the moderator of the first formal debate between former Secretary of State Susan Bysiewicz and Congressman Chris Murphy, the two candidates competing for the Democratic party's nomination for U.S. Senate.

He also served as the moderator of an on-campus debate between nationally renowned journalists Tucker Carlson and Eugene Robinson. This forum was sponsored by the Office of Student Affairs. Dr. Rose continues his work as a commentator for national, state and local media. He received his 30 year service award at the Founder's Day ceremony in April.



Political Science Adjunct Faculty

Louise DiCocco, J.D.

continues to offer her specialty course "Lobbying and the Legislative Process" every Spring semester.

Christopher DeSanctis,

M.A. offers "Introduction to American Government" and the Common Core's "The Human Community" on both the Fairfield and Stamford campuses. Mr. DeSanctis was recently nominated as the Republican party's candidate for the 133rd state legislative district in Fairfield.

Brian Marks, J.D., Ph.D.

teaches two Political Science electives during the academic year: "Modern Political Economy" and "Middle East Politics."

Kate O'Gara, M.A.

teaches sections of "Introduction to American Government" and the Common Core's "The Human Community."

Heather Schroder, J.D.

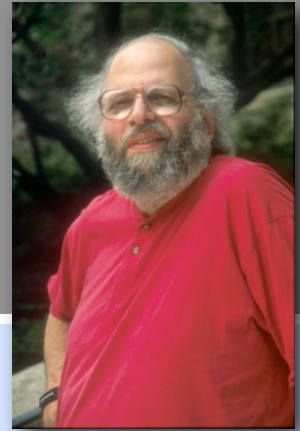
teaches evening sections of the Common Core's "The Human Community." Attorney Schroder '04 is a Political Science graduate from Sacred Heart University.

CONSTITUTION DAY 2012

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2012

2:00-3:00 PM

UNIVERSITY COMMONS



FEATURING SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

RALPH M. STEIN, J.D.

PROFESSOR OF LAW, PACE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

“FIRST AMENDMENT RIGHTS IN THE AGE OF SOCIAL MEDIA”

Professor Stein is a founding member of the Pace Law School faculty. His areas of expertise include constitutional law, first amendment freedoms, legal history, criminal law and torts. He was largely responsible for uncovering military surveillance of civilian political activity in the early 1970s. He served for two years as a field investigator for the U.S. Senate Sub-Committee on Constitutional Rights, and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Lower Hudson Valley Chapter of the New York Civil Liberties Union.

Professor Stein’s delivery is free and open to the public. Co-sponsored by the Department of Government and Politics and the Sacred Heart University Office of Marketing and Communication.

PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION TRIP TO WASHINGTON, DC

Dr. Rose will once again be coordinating his quadrennial trip to the nation’s capital for the 2013 presidential inauguration. This will be his eighth inauguration trip. According to the U.S. Constitution, January 20th is the official day for swearing the President into office. However, because January 20th falls on a Sunday, the President will be sworn in during a private ceremony. On Monday, January 21st, the President will once again be administered the oath of office in a public ceremony. More than 2 million people attended President Obama’s inauguration in 2009! The forthcoming inaugural trip is scheduled for January 19-21, 2013.

