

Government and Politics Newsletter

Summer 2013
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Sacred Heart
UNIVERSITY

Dr. Michels Named 2012-13 Teacher and Scholar of the Year



The Department of Government and Politics is proud to announce that Dr. Steven Michels was this year's recipient of the 2012-13 Teacher of the Year and Scholar of the Year awards. Dr. Michels was presented with his two awards at a faculty awards ceremony conducted on April 25. This is the very first time that a faculty member has been the recipient of both awards during the same Academic Year. Dr. Michels' performance underscores the high standards of teaching and scholarship that are inherent in the university's political science program.

Field Trip to the Presidential Inauguration

Dr. Rose once again coordinated and conducted his quadrennial field trip to the presidential inauguration. More than 50 students traveled to the nation's capital to watch the second inauguration of President Barack Obama. The three day trip, from January 18-20, 2012, included a lecture on the 2012 presidential election by Professor John K. White from the Catholic University of America, a moonlight tour of Washington monuments, free time at the Smithsonian Museums, a briefing with Congressman Jim Himes (D- CD 4, CT) the inaugural ceremony and the inaugural parade. The inauguration trip was also chronicled as a documentary which followed the students through every facet of the three day excursion.

The documentary is now stored in the university's archives. This was Dr. Rose's eighth inauguration trip with Sacred Heart students.



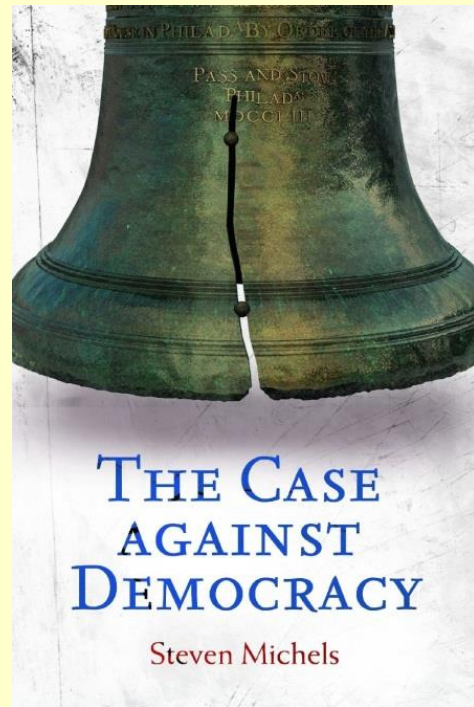
Faculty Scholarship and Related Activity

Lesley DeNardis, Ph.D. has a refereed article accepted for publication entitled "Electoral Competition in Connecticut's State House Races: The Trial Run of the Citizens' Election Program," in the *Journal of Public Administration Research* (forthcoming Vol. 2, No. 2, November 2013). She also presented a paper "MERA and CERA: A Tale of Two State Education Reforms" at the New England Political Science Association Annual Conference (May 2013). She was granted a sabbatical leave for Fall 2013 to research and write a book on education policy in Connecticut. Related activity included participation in a three-day workshop funded by the Davis Foundation for faculty scheduled to teach in the First Year Seminar program. Dr. DeNardis was also selected by the Provost to serve on the American Council on Education Internationalization Laboratory Task Force to research and develop strategies aimed at comprehensive internationalization of the university.

Alka Jauhari, Ph.D. published an article "India-Pakistan Relations: International Implications" in a peer-reviewed journal *Asian Social Science*, Vol.9, No. 1, January 2013. She presented a paper, "Building Peace in Africa: A State-Society Pursuit," at the New England Political Science Association (NEPSA) conference (May 2013). This paper is under review for potential publication in the journal *African Conflict and Peace Building Review* (ACPR). Dr. Jauhari also attended the *Achebe Colloquium on Peace and Security in Africa* in December 2012 and coordinated a colloquium at Sacred Heart on *Human Rights Violations*. She was also a panelist at the colloquium.

Steven Michels, Ph.D. published his first book *The Case Against Democracy* (Praeger, 2013), and is currently co-authoring an article with political science alumnus Tim McCranor regarding Tocqueville's economic thought.

Dr. Michels was also a participant in the aforementioned Davis Workshop for First Year Seminar instructors.



Gary L. Rose, Ph.D. was granted a sabbatical leave for the 2013 spring semester, during which time he completed his eleventh book, *No Holds Barred: The 2012 Connecticut Senate Race*. Dr. Rose's most recent book tracks the 2012 Connecticut election from start to finish. His work describes and analyzes the politics and outcome of Connecticut's most recent and hotly contested senate election. His book is forthcoming with Academica Press (2013).

Law School Placements

On April 25, the Department of Government and Politics conducted its annual **Pi Sigma Alpha** induction ceremony. The featured speaker for this year's event was Mr. Vincent "Vinny" Mangiacopra, a political science alumnus and current mayoral candidate in the city of Norwalk. Vinny spoke of the challenges associated with local campaigns including fundraising, coalition building and voter mobilization efforts. A lively question and answer session followed his delivery. This year's inductees included the following students:

Kelly Ann deAprix

Michael DiCenso

Kathleen Garveson

Sybil Gelin

Matthew Tarducci

Sarah Tully



**Congratulations to this year's
law school placements!**

Olivia Civardi – Pace University School of Law
Kathleen Garveson – Touro School of Law
**Nicole Morales – Georgetown University
School of Law**

Department Medal Winners

Two outstanding students, both heading to law school, were this year's recipients of our department's academic medals.

Gold Medal of Excellence – Nicole Morales
Silver Medal of Excellence – Olivia Civardi

Kikoski Scholarship Award

Congratulations to **Faustine Jean-Louise** who was named this year's recipient of the **Dr. John F. Kikoski Scholarship Award**. This award is named after our retired political science colleague and is bestowed upon a student who embraces Dr. "K's" enthusiasm and passion for learning. Previous award winners include:

Heather Falsetti – 2010

Whitney Wildman – 2010

Nicholas Kapoor – 2011

Charles Fleck – 2012

Students Participate Model UN



The Model UN course was offered by our department after a break of several years. Dr. Alka Jauhari was the advisor for this course, which was restricted to political science majors and minors. Twelve enthusiastic students were enrolled in the Model UN course. Sacred Heart was assigned to represent the country of "Zimbabwe." Students wrote position papers on Zimbabwe and participated in the Model UN conference held in New York. It was a great learning experience for the students. In addition to receiving an in-depth knowledge of Zimbabwe, the students were provided with a firsthand experience of the decision making processes of the UN committees.

Internships

The political science program has a very long tradition of placing students in public service internships. During the 2012-13 AY, a number of students were placed in a variety of governmental and political internships including legislative staff positions at the Connecticut state Capitol and staff positions on federal election campaigns. Within the 36 credit political science major, students are allowed to apply 9 internship credits towards their degree. Field work is complemented with book reviews, reflection essays and research papers. Evaluations by field supervisors are also required at the close of the semester.

Constitution Day

Every September 17th, which is the date our Founding Fathers completed their work on the U.S. Constitution, colleges and universities across the land celebrate this magnificent document by hosting events pertaining to constitutional issues, or the men who authored the Constitution. At Sacred Heart University, the Department of Government and Politics celebrates "Constitution Day" by featuring a learned constitutional scholar as a guest speaker. Our speakers have spanned the ideological spectrum, underscoring our department's commitment to diverse constitutional viewpoints. Several speakers have also met with pre-law students either before or after their delivery in a round-table format. Our most recent Constitution Day speaker was Professor Randolph McLaughlin, J.D. from Pace University School of Law. A most distinguished civil rights attorney and law professor, Professor McLaughlin's address was entitled "*The Bill of Rights: Who Needs It?*" In addition to a guest speaker, an assortment of books and legal documents are placed on display in the Ryan/Matura Library for a two week period.



Professor Randolph McLaughlin, J.D.

Adjunct Faculty

Our department is fortunate to have an outstanding cadre of adjunct faculty who teach introductory courses as well as specialized electives. In addition to being dedicated classroom instructors, our adjunct faculty have a breadth of applied knowledge which students find both informative and intriguing. Adjunct faculty during the past few years have included the following individuals.

Louise DiCocco, J.D. is a lobbyist and lawyer for the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce. Each spring she offers her specialty course *Lobbying and the Legislative Process*.

Christopher DeSanctis, M.A. is the Headmaster of the Grace Christian School in Stamford, Connecticut. He teaches *Introduction to American Government* and *The Human Community* within the Common Core

Brian Marks, J.D., Ph.D. is a consultant and counsel to technology, security, entertainment and financial services firms. He teaches *Modern Political Economy*, *the Middle East*, and *The Human Community* within the Common Core. Dr. Marks recently published a peer reviewed article: "A Model of Judicial Influence on Congressional Policy Making: Grove City College v. Bell" in the *Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization* (May 2012).

Kate O'Gara, M.A. has been an adjunct faculty member at Sacred Heart for many years. She teaches *Introduction to American Government*, *The Human Community* within the Common Core, and most recently her speciality course *Irish Politics*.

Robert Russo, J.D. maintains a private law practice in Southport, Connecticut and heads his own political consulting firm. He teaches *Introduction to American Government*.

Heather Schroder, J.D. is Corporate Counsel for Advanced Technology Materials in Danbury, Connecticut. She teaches *The Human Community* within the Common Core

We trust you have enjoyed this year's political science alumni newsletter. Note that we have once again enclosed the pledge card for the Dr. John F. Kikoski Scholarship Award. Any donation, large or small, will be very much appreciated. The "Dr. K." scholarship fund is applied directly to the award winner's tuition account.

You should also know that the Department of Government and Politics is now on Facebook. Please take the time to visit us!

Take good care, and always keep in touch.

Sincerely,

Gary L. Rose, Ph.D.
Professor and Chair
Department of Government and Politics
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