

THE FILIBUSTER

News from the Department of Political Science
Western Illinois University
Fall 2013

“Once a member of the Political Science Family, always a member...”



From the Chair...

It has been another active year in the WIU political science department. Department faculty continue to enjoy working with our students to understand developments in government and politics, while helping them hone their skills in reading, writing, speaking, critical thinking, and civic engagement. As in years past, we strive to upgrade our curriculum and provide students with rich educational experiences both inside and outside of class. With respect to the latter, our current activities include the Model United Nations and Illinois Government simulations, a newly-formed mock trial team, and faculty-led study abroad opportunities, including summer 2014 programs in Argentina and Northern Ireland. Professor Janna Deitz is also developing a Washington, D.C. internship program. If you can help our students with internships or other experiential learning opportunities, please contact me at ka-boeckelman@wiu.edu, or call the department office at the number listed below.

In addition to our academic research interests, our faculty continue to be involved in commenting on current political and governmental news in the media, and in campus and community forums. Some of the issues they have addressed include same sex marriage, concealed carry, the government shutdown, the Affordable Care Act, the aftermath of the Arab Spring, the Illinois governor's race, and many others. We have also hosted prominent speakers to engage and educate our students, most recently retired ambassador to Yemen, Edmund Hull, who visited campus in November.

Three of our faculty achieved career milestones this year. Janna Deitz was promoted to full professor, Erin Taylor received tenure, and Daniel Ogbaharya was promoted to assistant professor. Long-serving professor Bill Anderson has retired after teaching at Western for over 40 years. On a sad note, two former political science faculty members, Phyllis Farley Rippey and Jim Sundberg, have passed away in the past year. The department is currently in the process of creating a scholarship to honor Professor Rippey, who also served the university for many years as the dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

Political science department office manager Gail Ault edits *The Filibuster*. We thank her for keeping track of all our department's activities, as well as for her skill in writing and design. Please let Gail know if you have news to share – a new job, promotion, advanced degree, honor, or any other significant experience. We love to hear from our alums about memories old and new. Gail can be reached by phone at 309-298-1055 or by email at gd-ault@wiu.edu.

For the latest events, please visit our web page at www.wiu.edu/PoliticalScience or connect with us on Facebook under “Western Illinois University Department of Political Science.”

*Dr. Keith Boeckelman, Professor
Chair*

Dr. Phyllis Farley Rippey



The political science department mourns Dr. Phyllis Farley Rippey, who passed away April 17th. Professor Rippey specialized in constitutional

law, the U.S. Court system, and religion and politics. Her classes helped many students succeed in law school, and many others became political science majors because of her teaching in general education classes. She loved politics and debate, and was an energetic, passionate mentor and leader in the department. She also served as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, where she helped shape a generation of faculty.

Dr. Jim Sundberg



Former Western Illinois University political science Professor Jim Sundberg, 75, passed away in Macomb Saturday, October 26. Sundberg spent 30 years at WIU, where his study

focused on political science. He spend one year in Beirut, Lebanon as a Fulbright Scholar, served on several departmental and University committees and enjoyed being a part of the educational television series, “Eyes on the Prize.”

**Press release prepared by University Relations October 29, 2013.*

Study Abroad Opportunities

Students have two exciting opportunities for studying abroad this coming summer. Dr. Julia Albarracin will be leading “Culture and Politics in Argentina” with Dr. Guada Cabedo-Timmons



from Foreign Languages & Literatures. The trip will run from May 11 to June 1, 2014. World famous as the home of the tango, Argentina is a country of diverse peoples and cultures. It was colonized by the Spaniards, gained its independence in the 1800s, and

experienced a turbulent political scene since.

Today, it is a democracy with the same three branches of government (legislative, executive, and judicial) as the United States. Spanish is the main language but many other immigrant and indigenous languages are found throughout the country.

This Study Abroad Program is conducted in cooperation with the Universidad Católica de Córdoba in Cordoba, Argentina. Founded in 1956, it was the first private university in the country. It now has a student population of nearly 10,000 students. The city of Cordoba has many historical monuments and sites from Spanish colonial times, leading UNESCO to name part of the city a World Heritage site and making it an ideal location to visit.

Dr. Erin Taylor will be leading “WIU in Belfast” from mid-July to August, 2014. Marked by a history of political and cultural turmoil, Northern Ireland provides a context-transcending gateway for thinking about a wide variety of interdisciplinary issues, especially “identity”. The idea of identity is defined in different ways, not only by various disciplines but by individuals, cultures and countries. Northern Ireland serves as a great location to compare and contrast how the issues of identity have developed and changed over the years both there and in the United States.

Based at the Institute of Irish Studies at Queen's University in Belfast, this Study Abroad Program combines pre-departure work online, on-site classroom instruction and excursions to give students a fuller picture of Northern



Ireland. The on-site lectures are taught in an interdisciplinary approach by leading academics from various departments at Queen's University, including history, Irish studies, management, English, and politics. Outside experts present additional information on various topics, both in lectures and site visits. Evening activities include Irish dancing, music, and cinema.

Both programs offer up to six credit hours toward a student's WIU degree. The Political Science Department will also offer one \$500 scholarship for each program. For more information, contact Dr. Albarracin (j-albarracin@wiu.edu) or Dr. Taylor (e-taylor@wiu.edu).

Featured Major – Ashley Luke

Ashley Luke, of Oak Creek, Wisconsin, is a Political Science and Journalism double major. She transferred to Western Illinois University after attending the University of Wisconsin – Green Bay for a year. She chose Western because of its big campus feel but small class sizes and the chance to make a big impact on the basketball court. Since that time, she has made a name for herself here on campus.

Luke has made Semester Honors each semester she has been here and maintains a 4.000 GPA. She chose to study political science because she felt no other subject could help her make an impact on the world around her as she desires. She is President of the Associated Students of Political Science student group and was inducted into the Western Illinois Chapter of the Golden

Key International Honour Society. She has also been nominated by the University for the Truman Scholar award, a prestigious post-graduate scholarship for those interested in public service careers.

This past summer she served an internship with the Mayor of the City of Macomb, where she was able to work not only with the Mayor, but also the City Administrator, the City Clerk, City Attorney, business office, and the office of building and zoning. Her activities included attending city meetings and working on day-to-day tasks for each office. She was also able to take a trip to Springfield with the Mayor to meet with Illinois legislative representatives. Luke is grateful for her overall experience and “would highly encourage others to have internships there in the future.”



Luke is a forward on the Western Illinois University women's basketball team, where she has earned many athletic awards.

Recently she was named the Summit League “Player of the Week” for the second consecutive week. She also received

the conference “Co-Player of the Week” honor for the week of December 2nd. This season, she leads the conference in rebounding (11.1 rpg) and steals (2.8 spg), also ranking second in scoring (19.5 ppg).

Luke's status as a basketball player has also led her to create a new group at the University to introduce female international students to the world of sports and collegiate camaraderie. The Female Athletic International Ambassadors program gives female students from other countries the opportunity to share global perspectives with WIU female student-athletes and to learn more about the campus they share. “It is a mutually beneficial relationship with international students learning more about sports and making friends, and student athletes making

connections and potentially boosting attendance at different sporting events. In one semester, I have made many friends and learned a lot about different countries, and both things would not have happened without this program.”

In the future, Luke plans to obtain a Master's degree in either political science or economics. She then plans to move back to Wisconsin where she can work in local government to try to positively impact those around her.

Political Science Student Association

All political science majors and minors are invited to join the Political Science Student Association (PSSA). PSSA meets every other week during the academic year. Watch for flyers announcing meeting dates and times. This group is involved in planning social events and sponsoring public lectures/debates, etc., throughout the year. Most recently it sponsored a visit from speakers representing the group “Reboot Illinois.” PSSA offers our undergraduate and graduate majors/minors an opportunity to get involved in department activities. Dr. Keith Boeckelman serves as advisor for the group.

Pi Sigma Alpha

Political Science majors and minors with at least 10 semester hours of political science course work, and at least one course at the 300 level or above, with a political science grade point average of 3.0 or above are invited to join Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honorary society. There is a \$35 initiation fee, which is forwarded to the national headquarters in Washington, DC, required at the time of application. Applications are available in the department office, Morgan Hall 422. Watch for flyers announcing meeting

dates and times. Dr. Casey LaFrance serves as advisor for the group.

Phi Alpha Delta

Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, International is a professional law fraternity advancing integrity, compassion and courage through service to the student, the school, the profession and the community. It is composed of pre-law students, law students, legal educators, attorneys, judges, and government officials. A team of six students lead by advisor, Dr. Kimberly Rice, recently attended the 2013



Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law Conference November 14-16 in Alexandria, Virginia. Attending were **Kevin Barnai, Alexis Kathalynas, Alli Reed, Alex Gleason, and Nicholas Dollenmaier.**

Student Internships/Webb Internship Award

Internships are a great educational opportunity. They offer first-hand experience in a professional setting and can give you a real sense of your own abilities and whether your dream job is all you thought it would be. In addition, internships can provide invaluable career opportunities after graduation. Finally, an internship is a real plus on your résumé. You can earn up to 12 semester hours of credit for your internship experience. Six of these hours can be counted toward completion of your political science degree.

Several years ago WIU alumnus **Dan Webb**, a prominent attorney from the Chicago area, established the Dan Webb Political Science

Internship Award. Funds are now available for distribution to qualified students. For internship award guidelines and an application form, see Ms. Keeling in MG203F.

Recent student internship experiences include the following students.

Katelynn Henry, McDonough County Public Defender (Spring 2013)

Robert Johnson, State Senator John Sullivan (Spring 2013)

Brittany Nelson, McDonough County Public Defender (Spring 2013)

Hannah Adeponu, City of Martinsville, Illinois (Spring 2013)

Brittany Rhodes, Center for International Studies - WIU (Spring 2013)

Julia Bertolino, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services (Summer 2013)

Ashley Luke, City of Macomb, Illinois (Summer 2013)

Jonathan McGee, U.S. Department of the Interior (Summer 2013)

Abigail Derka, McDonough County Public Defender (Fall 2013)

Daniel Fristrom, State Senator John Sullivan (Fall 2013)

Brittany Rhodes, Center for International Studies – WIU (Fall 2013)

Guest Speakers and Panel Discussions

“Gun Control Information Panel,” a panel discussion hosted by faculty from Political Science and Law Enforcement & Justice Administration. [February 13, 2013]

“Sequestration: The Economics of the Politics, The Politics Behind the Economics,” a discussion presented on campus by Dr. Keith Boeckelman and Dr. Bill Polley of Economics and Decision Sciences. [March 21, 2013]

“The Constitution and Freedom of the Press,” a panel discussion moderated by Dr. Keith Boeckelman with Dr. Kimberly Rice serving as a panelist. This discussion was held in conjunction with U.S. Constitution Day. [September 17, 2013.]

Dr. Greg Baldi participated in a panel on **Recent Developments in Egypt and Syria** sponsored by University Libraries. [September 24, 2013]

“Police Discipline,” a panel discussion hosted by the Law Enforcement & Justice Administration department featured Dr. Casey LaFrance speaking on “The Target Model, differences in values between rank levels, communication flaws, and potential disciplinary sanctions.” [November 6, 2013]

Student Notes

Anne C. Hayes was selected as Department Scholar for Spring 2013 and nominated for the College of Arts and Sciences Scholar.

Michael Kohler was selected as Department Scholar for Fall 2013.

Congratulations to our 2013-2014 scholarship recipients: **John Johnson**, Marcy & Lulu Bodine Award; **Datrese Hearn**, Roland Burke Award; **Judah Kennedy**, Charles Leonard Memorial Award; **Tiffany Geer** and **Krystal Torres**, Don Marshall Memorial Award; **Broderick Hoerner**, Clarence Neff Award; and **Ayesha Montgomery** for our new Political Science Foundation Award.

D’Angelo Taylor served as the student trustee to Western Illinois University’s Board of Trustees through June 30, 2013.

Senior **Anne Hayes** was inducted into Western Illinois University’s chapter of Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society. Admission to Phi Kappa Phi is by invitation only, and invitations

are extended to the top 7.5 percent of juniors, the top 10 percent of seniors and the top 10 percent of graduate students. [April 14, 2013]
Graduate students **Jonathan Bilotti** and **Alexander Denison**, and undergraduate **Ashley Luke** were inducted into the Western Illinois Chapter of the Golden Key International Honour Society.

Gregory Boidy and **Christopher Zimmerman** were listed on “Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities & Colleges.”

Ashley Luke, a Leathernecks basketball player, has created a new group at the University to introduce female international students at Western to the world of sports and collegiate camaraderie. Luke has established the Female Athletic International Ambassadors program, which gives female students from other countries the opportunity to share global perspectives with WIU female student-athletes and to learn more about the campus they share. “In an increasingly internationalized world, it is becoming vital to have a greater global understanding. This group achieves that while uniting women to combat the global gender gap,” Luke said. “We will work together to share our cultures and learn about others in a fun, judgment-free environment.”
**Excerpts taken from a press release prepared by University Relations, September 26, 2013.*

Six political science undergraduate students participated in the Thomas E. Helm Undergraduate Research Day on April 16.

Podium presentations were made by:

John Johnson, working with Dr. Greg Baldi, “The German Pirate Party: Post-Materialist Politics in the 21st Century”

Gregory Boidy Jr., working with Dr. Jonathan Day, “The Nature and Extent of Student Media Censorship in the United States”

Poster presentations were made by:

Datrese Hearn, working with Dr. MaCherie Placide, “A Comparison between Machiavelli ‘The Prince’ and Scott ‘Utopia’ – The Real World to the Imaginary World”

Julia Bertolino, working with Dr. Rick Hardy, “The 5th Amendment and The States”

Hannah Bradshaw, working with Dr. Rick Hardy, “Development of Women’s Reproductive Rights”

Anthony Ginn, working with Dr. Erin Taylor, “The Trial and Death of Socrates”

John Johnson was named the overall third place winner in the Podium competition category.

Six political science undergraduate received a College of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research and Scholarly Activities Grant. They are **Jonathan Baker, Kattina Williams, Jake Anderson, Bahader Singh, Matt Hellman, and Andrew Schulze**. These students went on to the 21st Annual Illinois State University Conference for Students of Political Science on April 12 to present their research, along with the following students: **Ben Martin, Matt Koretke, Juan Cuellar, Ben Lampere, Edith Rivera, Meg Severson, James Brenner, and Thomas Dodd**.



Brokk Doyle, Joseph Pienta, Antonio Marshall, Jonathan McGee, Caleb Markey, David Goltzow, Steve Wailand, Genc Arifi, Mark Dasher, Nicholas Dallenmaier, Alli Reed, Marquita Daniel, Natalie Shinn,

Joshua Wood, James Hennenfent, Marek Korzinski, Andrew Cochran, Alex Gleason, Greg Boidy, and Allison Ramsey participated in the Model Illinois Government simulation held in Springfield, IL February 28 – March 3. **McGee** was elected Lt. Governor, **Pienta** was elected Comptroller, and **Gleason** was elected Chief Justice.



Beth Greenwood, William Grover, John Benning, Josh Wood, Daniel Schmidt, Tyler

Schrapf, Mark Hertel, and James Hennenfent participated in the Model United Nations simulation in St. Louis, MO February 20-23. The students received an honorable mention award for their performance in the Economic and Social Council.

Alumni News

John Comerford (1996) has been selected to receive the WIU Alumni Achievement Award at the December 14 Commencement exercises. He is currently serving as president of Blackburn College.

Kirk Dillard (1977) is a State Senator for the State of Illinois and will be a Republican candidate for Governor in the March 2014 GOP Primary.

Patrick Hampton (2009) is a director of constituent affairs for the State of Illinois, Office of the Governor.

Mark Kerr (1994) is a senior development advisor to the U.S. Southern Command and a foreign service officer for the U.S. Agency for International Development in Washington, DC.

Paul Vallas (1976, 1980) has been named the 2014 running mate for Illinois Governor Pat Quinn.

Recent Faculty Activities

Julia Albarracin presented “Latin American Immigrants in the Argentine Press” at the Midwest Political Science Association Conference held in Chicago, Illinois April 11-14.

Greg Baldi presented “Intersections of Social and Integration Policies/Social Policies in Europe” at the Midwest Political Science Association conference held in Chicago, Illinois April 11-14.

Keith Boeckelman presented “The Impact of Mock Presidential Elections on Civic Engagement” at the American Democracy Project national conference in Denver, Colorado June 6-9.

Keith Boeckelman attended the 30th Anniversary Academic Chairpersons Conference in San Antonio, Texas February 5-8 on the recommendation of Provost Hawkinson.

Janna Deitz was promoted from Associate Professor to Professor.

Janna Deitz was inducted into Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society.

Casey LaFrance presented “Hollow Steel: An Exploration for Emotional Labor in Juvenile Corrections” at the Iowa Association of Political Scientists in Davenport, Iowa March 2.

Casey LaFrance presented “Perspectives of Legal Liability Issues & Trends in Coping Among County Sheriffs” at the annual meeting of the Association of Political Scientists at St. Ambrose University March 2.

Jongho Lee presented “The Contextual Underpinnings of Voting Patterns for Black Statewide Candidates/Panel on State and Local Issues in Minority Politics” at the Western Political Science Association conference in Los Angeles, California March 27-31.

Jongho Lee. “Explaining Cross-Border Political Activities among Latino Immigrants in the United States,” *Politics & Policy*, 41: 301-25.

Jongho Lee, Keith Boeckelman, Jonathan Day. “The Contextual Underpinnings of Voting Patterns for Black Statewide Candidates,” *Journal of Black Studies*, 44: 590-606.

Daniel Ogbaharya successfully defended his dissertation in March.

Macherie Placide presented “Reinventing Jim Crow...Again: Examining the Policy Implications of Voter ID Laws” at the Western Political Science Association conference held in Los Angeles, California March 27-31.

Macherie Placide presented “The Beat Goes On: Examining Political Participation of Young People via New Media and Its Impact on the 2008 and 2012 Presidential Elections” at the National Conference of Black Political Scientists in Oakbrook, Illinois March 13-16.

Kimberly J. Rice presented “Deference to the Executive in the U.S. Supreme Court’s Agenda” at the Midwest Political Science Association conference in Chicago, Illinois April 11-12.

Erin Taylor presented “Expectant Moms Respond to ‘Risk’ and ‘Benefit’ Language in Breastfeeding Promotion: Evaluating the Impact of Language on Efficiency” at the 8th Conference in the Breastfeeding and Feminism Series in Chapel Hill, North Carolina March 21-22.

