

Department of Political Science and International Affairs

Volume 3, Issue 1

Spring 2006



Editor: Dr. Kerwin Swint

Inside this issue:

Student Groups in POLS & IA	2
Honors Day	3
Political Science Club News	3
Student Update	4
Faculty Round-Up	5
New Faces	7

FACULTY TRIP TO CHINA

By Bill Baker and Ulf Zimmerman

Last summer a number of department faculty and administrators had the opportunity to visit China on a faculty development tour. The group included Martha Griffith, Director, Ulf Zimmerman, David Shock, Bill Baker, and Chris Horne, and others in the Political Science Department. The opportunity was special for us because we were active in a contract with the City of Hangzhou and the Province of Quanshi teaching mid-career administrators. During our two week excursion, we spent at least two days each in the cities of Beijing, Xi'an, Hangzhou, and Shanghai. The tour was packed with seeing many of the highlights including, Tian'anmen Square, the Forbidden City and Summer Palace, The Great Wall (yes, we climbed it), a rickshaw ride deep into the Hutong to visit with a gracious family, an afternoon viewing the Terra-Cotta Warriors site, Wuzhen Water Village, boat ride on West lake, a Green Tea Plantation, and the Shanghai Museum.

We stayed in high quality hotels and every meal was a variation of a Chinese feast including a formal Peking Roasted Duck dinner and a twenty course Dumpling Flavor extravaganza. Many of our dinners were hosted by city officials replete with ample Toasts and hospitality. Throughout the tour we were visually exposed to the eastern sites that were unusual if not unique to non eastern travelers. Besides organized visits to temples, palaces, pagodas, and markets, we were immersed in the urban center of these cities. Fortunately, as tourists, we had a large comfortable bus that provided an experienced driver and guide so we could absorb a close, safe, and immensely interesting view of dense populations of, foot, cycle, bus, and auto traffic successfully intermingling. Unless one was acclimated to the typical New York City scene, the order within chaos was remarkable. Soon, however, we could see evidence of what our department chair, Chien-pin Li, described as "peaceful co-existence."



STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS HAD A BIG YEAR

Pi Sigma Alpha

The national honor society for Political Science. This year's Pi Sigma Alpha President was **Justin Freeborn**.

Newly inducted members for the 2005-2006 academic year are:

Brandon Bryson
Matthew Bynum
Diana Cassaro
Janette Cox
Laura Davis
Joshua Dixon
Meghan Gladden
Lindsey Hand

Elizabeth Jabaley
Rebekah Johnson
Whit Long
Juliana Ospina
Becca Patton
Patrick Price
Alexis Strong
Lauren Villnow

Model UN

By Stephen McKelvey

KSU students capably represented Moldova and Romania at this year's National Model United Nations in New York from 11 April to 15 April. They were powerful voices in each committee, proving successful at building coalitions and passing resolutions on topics ranging from refugees to nuclear proliferation and terrorism. Faculty Advisors **Linda Morrisson** and **Stephen McKelvey** believe that this was one of the best prepared and most highly motivated UN teams in Kennesaw's long history of excellence. Both advisors were impressed with the students, drive, determination, and perseverance at the simulation. They exhibited the highest degree of professionalism and achieved a level of team cohesion rarely seen in collegiate simulations. The skill our students exhibited in small group negotiations during protracted caucus sessions also earned the respect and admiration of other delegations at the conference.

This year's conference included 3500 students from thirty countries from around the world including teams from Afghanistan, Japan, Poland, France, Germany, Italy, Venezuela, the UK, and of course from all over the United States. The students representing Moldova for Kennesaw State at the National Model UN this year were **Mazjida Kahn** (team captain), **JoAnna Conlon** (head delegate), **David Abercrombie**, **Giovanni Gonzales**, **Jennifer Gunter**, **Nicole Larsen**, **Mariana Maneiro**, **Mark McCampbell**, **Jose Morales**, **Cassidy Seltzer**, **Sam Wilburn**, and **David Wright**. **Meghan Gladden** and **Paul Harris** represented Romania in the Security Council and also made Kennesaw proud with the high standard of excellence they established and maintained throughout the conference.

Model Arab League

The KSU team competed at the National Model Arab League Tournament at Georgetown University in Washington, representing the nation of Lebanon and bringing home an outstanding delegation award. They competed against 21 universities from across the country, as well as the American University in Cairo, Egypt. Individual Outstanding Delegate awards went to **Jamie Witter, Brian Parker, Stephen Valdes, Ian Weise, Samir Hallab, Kirk Truscott, and Jonathan Edman**. **David Valente** was selected by a vote of faculty advisors as the outstanding committee chairperson. **Ghizlane Kirane** is the team captain, and **Sofia Lipko** is the co-captain.

At the regional Arab League competition in March, the team also did an outstanding job. Students winning recognition as Outstanding Delegates included **Jonathan Edman, Emina Ticic, Jelena Kelava, Sofia Lipko, Ghizlane Kirane, Kirk Truscott, Stephen Valdes, Samir Hallab,, and Ian Weise**. **Tracey Brown** was recognized as an Outstanding Justice on the Arab Court of Justice, and **David Valente** was selected as an Outstanding Chair.

The team is advised by **Ms. Linda Morrisson**

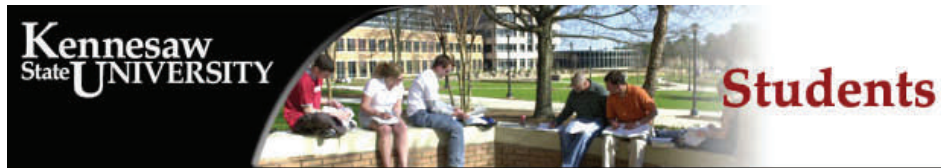


The 2006 KSU Model Arab League Team

Mock Trial

The team had a very successful spring. They placed 6th at the Ramblin Wreck Invitational held at Ga Tech. **Lauren Villnow** won an outstanding witness award and **Katherine Knudsen** won an outstanding attorney award. One week later, the team competed against a tough field at a regional tournament at Furman University. There they won a bid to the National Mock Trial Tournament at Stetson University. At the nationals, **Katherine Knudsen** again won an outstanding attorney award, this time with a perfect score. **Sean Blanc** also won an Outstanding Attorney award and **Tim McDonald** won an Outstanding Witness award. KSU faced teams from Case Western Reserve, Southern Methodist University, Columbia, and Amherst College. Finishing with a 6-2 record, the KSU team came in 2nd place. Other team members are **Kubra Berki, James Byagagaire, Ashley Carlisle, Jessica Johnson, Debbie Layden, Holly Piper, Jared Ray, Michael Ray, Brian Simmons, and Jaclyn Venezia**.

The KSU Team is advised by **Dr. Elizabeth Gordon** and **Dr. William Gillespie**



Student Update

Naomi Doerner (IA 03) has been accepted to New York University's Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service. Naomi will pursue a Master's Degree in Urban Affairs.

J.D. Grant (POLS 01) is Executive Assistant to the Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Revenue.

Maggie Heim-Smith (POLS 00) is practicing law with the firm of Schklar, Wright, and Henderson in Atlanta.

Nick Brown (POLS 04) is working on a Master's Degree in Public Administration at Florida State University.

Nels Peterson (POLS 01) recently completed clerking for a federal judge is now an associate at King and Spalding law firm in Atlanta.

Lisa Johnson (POLS 03) is a first-year student at John Marshall Law School in Atlanta.

Deborah Barton (POLS 03) is currently working as a paralegal and plans to attend law school next year.

Luai Kassem (IA 99) majored in IA and received a Master's in Conflict Management from KSU. He is manager for Alternative Dispute Resolution at Abu-Ghazalah Legal, a branch of the Talal Abu-Ghazalah Organization. His office implements a mediator's certificate in Jordan throughout the Middle East. Luai works from Amman, Jordan.

Catherine Higgins (MPA 05) was hired as a budget analyst in the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget.



Nels Peterson addresses faculty and students at the 2006 Honors Day festivities

Faculty Round-Up

Elizabeth Gordon presented a paper, along with senior political science major **Jonathan Withers**, at the Southern Political Science Association. They plan to submit an article for publication based on the research. She will present a paper this summer at the Law and Society Association in Baltimore.

Michele Zebich-Knos co-edited a new book called *Foreign Policy Toward Cuba*, Lexington Books, 2005. She also presented a paper about foreign policy toward Cuba at the International Studies Association. In addition, she presented papers earlier this year at the Latin American Studies Association and the International Studies Association.

Barbara Neuby published, along with Helen Ridley, the *American Government* workbook used in the department's American Government classes. She also had an article published in the *Journal of Politics and Policy*, and has another forthcoming in the *Handbook of Globalization*. She also presented papers at two academic conferences.

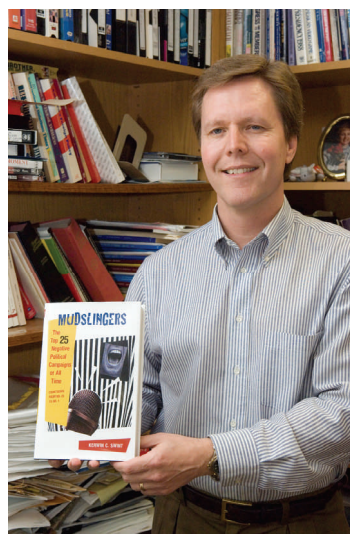
Mark Kremer published a book with Focus Press called *Plato and Xenophon: Apologies*.

Chris Horne had three articles published in peer reviewed journals and presented research papers at three conferences. He also provided strategic training for the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice leadership Training Program.

Kerwin Swint's new book *Mudslingers: The Top 25 Negative Political Campaigns of All Time* came out in January and has had rave reviews from *The Wall Street Journal*, *Roll Call*, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and *The Hill*. In February he was interviewed live on National Public Radio.



Dr. Mark Kremer



Dr. Kerwin Swint



Dr. Barbara Neuby

From there we also made an excursion, the next day, to a nearby section of the famous Great Wall, which is stunning to experience in person (I did make it up to the high point of our section, and the view of the Wall stretching out in front of one is quite spectacular indeed).

Several of us gave lectures to students during the day and we had time to meet and get to know some of the faculty. In typical fashion, we were treated most honorably with a special tour of their city which culminated with a reception in a classic tea room. Here we had time to relax and converse with our alumni. As with the case of American MPA's, these mid and upper managers were all very busy but dedicated in their work.

The last city of our tour was Shanghai, China's new young hot "hussy" in the '20s and again today, with its countless skyscrapers, international businesses and their representatives, and spectacular triple-layered freeway system (all adorned with potted plants), this is one of the most sophisticated and cosmopolitan cities in the world. Having had the tremendously varied local cuisines of the previous areas (dumpling of 18 different sorts in Xian, no rice) and lots of fish (and of course Peking Duck in Beijing along with the famed Beijing opera, which is comically accessible even to us foreigners), once in Shanghai Nuru and I decided to go in search of a German meal, and we quickly found a proper German "Gaststube" in a French hotel with American baseball playing on the TV. That's globalization for you. In the little evening entertainment area we were also able to go from a genuine Bavarian brewery restaurant and sidewalk café to an American style jazz club just up the way, with Americans jamming together with Chinese players.

It may surprise Americans, as it did these two hyphenated (African- and German-) Americans, that we have much to learn from the Chinese today. They understand that power sources are an increasing problem, and make many efforts to conserve them, be it gasoline or electricity. All the hotel rooms and museum cases, for example, stay dark until someone enters them or moves in front of them. And they have also succeeded in managing a wide variety of traffic, from pedestrians and bicyclist to every conceivable motorized vehicle surprisingly harmoniously.

Our crowning experience in leaving Shanghai for the airport was the maglev train that whisked us there from the city in just a few nanoseconds, something we also don't seem to be able to do here, in this supposedly most technologically advanced country in the world.

There are many descriptors that may be overused but the word "awesome" has a new meaning for us.

New Faces

Dr. Linda M. Johnston is the Director of the Master of Science in Conflict Management Program and the Center for Conflict Management. Her research interests include racial and ethnic conflict, sports-related violence, health-related conflict, narrative and discourse theory, and world view theory. She has taught at Antioch University McGregor in the Conflict Resolution Program and at the Institute for Conflict Analysis and Resolution at George Mason University. She is a trained mediator and facilitator, who works both domestically and internationally. She has worked on Fellowship to begin a dialogue between Egyptians and Americans. Dr. Johnston serves in the Executive Board of the International Peace Research Association and Foundation, serves on the Small Research Grants Committee, and administers the Senesh Fellowship Program. She is also on the Board of Hands Along the Nile and the on-line advisory committee for the UN School of Peace in Costa Rica.



Dr. Linda Johnston



Dr. Stephen Collins

Dr. Stephen Collins was born in New York City in 1969. He attended Villanova University in 1988, graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 1992. Stephen remained in Philadelphia and subsequently earned a Master of Arts in Political Science from Villanova in 1998. That year he moved to Baltimore to continue his graduate education at The Johns Hopkins University, and graduated with a Ph.D. in Political Science in 2004. Stephen's major fields of study include International Relations and Comparative Politics. International political economy and American foreign policy represent the focus of his research work. Stephen's Ph.D. dissertation examined the use of economic instruments of statecraft by global powers. Stephen met his wife, Christine, in graduate school at Villanova University. They were married in May 1998, in Seaside Park, NJ. Stephen and Christine are proud parents of Emily, born August 2003, in Baltimore, MD. Stephen's leisure interests include photography, travel, cycling, hiking, and golf.



Department of Political Science and
International Affairs
1000 Chastain Road
Kennesaw, Georgia 30144

Phone: 770/423-6227
Fax: 770/423-6312
[Http://www.kennesaw.edu/pols](http://www.kennesaw.edu/pols)

Editor: Dr. Kerwin Swint
Kswint@kennesaw.edu

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

Kennesaw, GA

PERMIT NO. 551

Faculty Advisors

High School Model UN
Model Arab League
Mock Trial
Pi Sigma Alpha
Society for Legal Studies
Political Science Club
College Democrats
College Republicans
Global Society
Model United Nations
Circle K

Dr. Jack Moran/Dr. Chien-pin Li
Ms. Linda Morrisson
Dr. Elizabeth Gordon/Dr. William Gillespie
Dr. Kerwin Swint
Dr. Elizabeth Gordon
Dr. Kerwin Swint
Dr. Harold Wingfield
Dr. David Shock
Dr. Chien-Pin Li
Mr. Steve McKelvey/Linda Morrisson
Dr. Ulf Zimmerman