

**Fall 2014 -
Summer 2015**



Editor: Dr. Jeff DeWitt

Inside this issue:

Student Groups 2-3

Student and Alumni Update 4-5

Department News & Notes 6-13

Faculty News & Notes 14-20

Advisors and Contact Information 21

Department Experiences Exciting Growth and Expansion

by Dr. Kerwin Swint, Department Chair

The Department of Political Science and International Affairs continues to grow, adding exciting new faculty and programs. The Department now has 40 full-time professors, including tenured, tenure-track, and full-time lecturers. Consolidation with Southern Polytechnic has enabled us to strengthen our International Affairs Program, adding Dr. Thomas Rotnem, a specialist in Russian and Eurasian Politics, and Dr. Thomas Nisley, a Comparative Politics and Latin American Affairs scholar. Also joining us through consolidation is Dr. Carl Snook, an American Government and Public Policy analyst, and Dr. Rebecca Lefebvre, who earned KSU's first Ph.D. in International Conflict Management. We are also pleased to welcome Dr. Jerry Herbel as the new Director of our Master in Public Administration Program, Dr. April Johnson, who specializes in Political Psychology and American Politics, and two new limited term professors, Dr. Josh Johnson and Ms. Cynthia Michota. In addition, the Department added new academic programs to the mix, including a Minor in Political Science, which is now offered alongside minors in International Affairs and Legal Studies. We are also proud to introduce a new Certificate in Constitutional Studies, which will bolster our undergraduates preparing for careers in law and brings the number to four certificate programs. The others are in Political Communication, Professional Politics, and Alternative Dispute Resolution. It all adds up to a POLS-IA department on the move, and engaging with our students to build a first-class program for the new Kennesaw State University.

2014-15 Student Honorees

Outstanding Political Science Student

Tonya Helstowski

Faculty Honoree: **Dr. Maia Hallward**

Outstanding International Affairs Student

Patrick Hughes

Faculty Honoree: **Dr. Jack Moran**

Outstanding MPA Graduate Student

Paula Bechtler

Faculty Honoree: **Dr. Ulf Zimmermann**

Outstanding MSCM Graduate Student

Adriene Similton

Faculty Honoree: **Dr. Heather Pincock**

Outstanding MSIPM Graduate Student

Trent Cluely

Faculty Honoree: **Dr. Thomas Doleys**

Student Groups: Another Banner Year

Mock Trial

KSU's Mock Trial, coached by **Dr. Elizabeth Gordon**, concluded another highly successful competition season. Teams competed in numerous invitational tournaments in addition to the AMTA regional qualifier and the national championship's opening round. For details on the team's achievements, go to page 9. Mock Trial team members include:

Tamika Bowe	Callie Christian	Kensley Fields	Elena Hernandez
Ashli Howell	B.J. Moates	Juan Ortiz	Carlton Stewart
Jon Wade	Lynn Zibanejadrad		

Model African Union

The KSU Model African Union completed another successful year. The faculty advisor is **Dr. Nuru-deen Akinyemi**. See page 10 for details. Team members include:

Oge Agim	Marie Ahebee	Oluwatosin Akogun	Queen Anaeki
Maxine Asumadu	Jhoania Augustin	Corey Brown	Soprinye Dappa-Fombo
Benjamin Djanor	Isra Ghanim	Summer Johnson	Hadiza Lawal
Lauren Lowers	Amarachi Onyewu	Priscilla Owusu	Lisa Smith
Bradley Stallings	Liza Stepat	Akos Wiafe	Alla Yoonis

Model NATO Team

The Model NATO Team turned in another banner year. The faculty advisor is **Professor Stephen McKelvey**. Details on KSU's Model NATO Team are found on page 7. Team members include:

Laura Alford	Emily Bateman	Thomas Farmer III	Annie Hill
Morgan Knowles	Noelle Lashley	Asha Leaphart	Natasha Quintana

Model United Nations Delegates

The KSU Model UN Team, advised by **Dr. William Gillespie**, continued to excel during 2014-2015. Team members include:

Oluwatosin Akogun	Queen Anaeki	Anna Barnes	Emily Barnes
Tiffany Brouard	Hadassah Chase	Nicholas Corn	Frankarlo Figueroa
Ruth Forsyth	Vanessa Godinez	Alex Gunter	Michael Haire
Anna Hill	Chelsea Jones	Ana Kazemi	Skyler Kelley
Sarah Kelsey	Kyungmeen Lah	Hadiza Lawal	Joseph Liu
John Luna	Liz Meehan	Mitchell Miller	Garrett Myers
Valeria Ortega	Cristina Packham	Jay Parker	Justin Rivard
Lisa Smith	Celida Solis	Travis Sonner	Bradley Stallings
Jackson Sullins	Jasmine Sutherland	Brandon Vines	Alexys Wilson
Princess Wilson			

Model League of Arab States

The Model League of Arab States completed another impressive year in 2014-2015. The team advisor is **Dr. Thomas Doleys**. Details are found on page 9. The team includes:

Laura Alford	Emily Bateman	Kelli Crawford	Vanessa Godinez
Annie Hill	Kyle Roberts	Abdel Sharkasi	Elise Williard

Mock Mediation Team

The Mock Mediation Team continues to build on its reputation for excellence. The team's faculty advisor is **Dr. Heather Pincock**. For details, please see page 8. The team includes:

Michael Campbell	Melanie Clinton	Askari Dobbs	Kensley Fields
Wim Laven	Claudine Pierremoise	Courtney Skeete	Chicary Smith
Jackson Young			

Pi Sigma Alpha

The National Honor Society for Political Science inductees to Pi Sigma Alpha have shown excellence in the study of Political Science and a commitment to leadership. The faculty advisor is **Dr. Andrew Pieper**. Newly inducted members for the 2014-2015 academic year are:

Stephanie Craven	Elad Fitoussi	Marianna Harris	Hughey Jeffries
John Pledger	Travis Sonner		

High School Model United Nations

The High School Model United Nations, hosted at Kennesaw State University, was another massive success. The faculty adviser is **Dr. Chien-pin Li**. See page 11 for details. Chairs and Rapporteurs include the following:

Anna Barnes	Emily Barnes	Emily Bateman	Hadassah Chase
Nicholas Corn	Thomas Farmer III	Frankarlo Figueroa	Ruth Forsyth
Irsa Ghanim	Vanessa Godinez	Alex Gunter	Michael Haire
Jenna Hill	Patrick Hughes	Sarah Kelsey	Morgan Knowles
Noelle Lashley	Asha Leaphart	Joseph Liu	John Luna
Mitchell Miller	Valeria Ortega	Cristina Packham	Angela Reisner
Justin Rivard	Lisa Smith	Travis Sonner	Bradley Stallings
Jasmine Sutherland	Elise Williard	Alexys Wilson	Alla Yoonis

Student Update

Political Science Student Honored with National Fellowship Award

by Kerwin Swint

When “Khy” Chestnut learned of his selection as a Newman Civic Fellow for 2015, the first thing he did was to call his mother in Douglasville and tell her the good news. Chestnut had just been selected by a group of college and university presidents from 36 states plus the District of Columbia, all members of Campus Compact, who nominated student leaders they believed represent the best of the next generation of civic leaders. “My mother doesn’t get excited about much,” Chestnut recalled, “but she really got excited about this. And for me, this is just a dream come true!”

Chestnut, a political science major with a dual minor in business management and dance, who served as Vice President of the Kennesaw State Student Government Association and currently serves as Director of External Affairs for the group, has distinguished himself throughout his time at Kennesaw State as someone who cares deeply about helping others.

In putting forward Chestnut’s name for consideration, Kennesaw State President Daniel S. Papp stated, “Khyllil Chestnut is an outstanding example of student leadership and commitment to civic engagement. Khyllil combined his commitment to community impact and academic studies as a 2014 Civic Leadership, Engagement and Research Fellow. Through this KSU undergraduate research program, he supported faculty-led research that explored how workforce skills are developed through service in the community.”

Papp praised what he termed Chestnut’s “commendable engagement in civic leadership and public service,” which he said, “is evidenced in the depth and breadth of his curricular and co-curricular activities. Khyllil’s involvement includes direct service, civic leadership, and engaged scholarship. He has participated in numerous university initiatives to advance community engagement and regularly serves as a student advocate for diversity and inclusion in our efforts to strengthen community partnerships.”

The nomination also noted Chestnut’s involvement in university-sponsored programs and his “remarkable personal commitment and leadership through volunteer service and internships.” “Khyllil is an exceptional student leader and reflection of KSU’s commitment to community engagement,” Papp said. Chestnut was cited for his assistance in the organization of campaign events for a gubernatorial candidate, leadership for the recruitment, training and coordination for over 20,000 volunteers for an Atlanta-based nonprofit, and garnering support for a city referendum through the collection of more than 3,000 resident signatures. “Community is a very personal and meaningful concept to me,” Chestnut said. “I believe community engagement is a lifestyle that reflects regular commitment to action. I strongly believe that through diversity, ideas are stronger, and I have encouraged collaborative decision-making in each leadership role I have served in.” Chestnut said he plans to use some of the proceeds from his Newman Scholarship for graduate school.”





Alumni Update

Paul Johnson, (IA, '99) was accepted into Seoul National University's Graduate Program in Linguistics where he is pursuing a Master's degree. Paul resides in Seoul, South Korea, where he has an established career in English language teaching. He teaches English as a second language at the university level, and holds a Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (CELTA) from the British Council in Seoul. One of our own International Affairs graduates now "represents" Kennesaw at Seoul National University, which consistently ranks in the top 10 among Asian universities and the 50 best universities in the world.

Congratulations to KSU POLS Graduate **Derrick Dickey** who has been [hired](#) as Chief of Staff for Senator David Perdue. The following is from the [AJC](#):

WASHINGTON — As he prepares to become Georgia's junior senator in January, Republican David Perdue is putting a pair of people who helped get him here in key posts.

Derrick Dickey, a consultant who helped launch Perdue when nobody knew who the businessman was, will be Perdue's Chief of Staff.

Dickey was a press aide for former Gov. Sonny Perdue and handled communications strategy for his cousin David during the campaign.

"Senator-elect Perdue will be a great representative for the people of Georgia," Dickey wrote in an email. "I am honored to have this opportunity to help him in his service."

Also, congratulations to the following POLS Alumni, who graduated from law school:

David Bailey (2012, Emory), **Caleb Stone** (2011, William & Mary), **Craig Smith** (2011, William & Mary), **Galen Joyce** (2011, Louisville), **Joe Roesch** (2009, Mercer), **Marsha Miller Terry** (2009, Atlanta's John Marshall)

Department News & Notes

KSU Students Team Up With CBS46 To Apply Truth Tests During 2014 Election Season

By Andrew Pieper

In Fall 2014, Dr. Andrew Pieper and ten Political Science and Communications students participated in one of the most exciting and innovative projects at Kennesaw State in recent memory. These students, working with CBS46 News Anchor



Scott Light, created a series of “fact checking” segments assessing the accuracy of statements made by public officials and political candidates. Known as the “CBS46 TruthTest” this segment aired every Thursday night for eight weeks, and contained research and analysis by these impressive Kennesaw students.

The course and segments were a test of organization, work ethic, and data analysis. Most of the TruthTests revolved around statements made by campaigns. For instance, the first segment (video [here](#)) analyzed Governor Nathan Deal’s claims that his appointments to state boards were within the historical standard set by previous governors. The class would meet to do initial research, define terms and concepts, and then look to collect data. Each Tuesday before Wednesday filming with CBS46, the class would meet to synthesize research, create graphics, and establish a “grade” for the TruthTest, ranging from “A” to “F”.

This project was highlighted by the [Kennesaw State homepage](#), and Dr. Pieper presented the project at the American Press Institute’s “[FactChecking Summit](#)” in Washington DC.



Top Row: Megan Yeakey, Lauren Parkinson, Jonathan Pledger, Kensley Fields, Carley Cole, Dr. Andy Pieper. Bottom Row: Allan Marin, Alexander Koehlke, Jason Hutchins, Taylor Wilkes, Sirraya Billings

Department News & Notes (continued)

Another Banner Year for Model NATO Program

by Stephen McKelvey

A team of eight Kennesaw State University students distinguished themselves by accurately, energetically, and effectively representing the United Kingdom at the International Model NATO Conference held in Washington, D.C. this past week. Having worked for many months researching the worldview and foreign policy of the United Kingdom, the Kennesaw State students debated topics ranging from the crisis in Ukraine and continuing stability operations in Afghanistan to Alliance efforts to prevent nuclear terrorism. The Kennesaw State delegation received a briefing at the British Embassy, where our students won praise for the quality of their pre-conference preparation and for the depth of their knowledge about Britain's role in the Atlantic Alliance. Five students won awards in three separate committees including an Outstanding Delegation Award in the Political Affairs Committee. Of the twenty-nine country delegations at the conference only eight earned Team Awards and Kennesaw's delegation won one of these coveted prizes. In every committee, our students played a remarkably effective role in shaping debate and in forging coalitions.

This is the third year that Kennesaw State has participated in the International Model NATO Conference. The Conference is jointly sponsored by Howard University, Converse College, and Kent State University. A total of twenty-nine country delegations were represented by twenty-one colleges and universities from Belgium, the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States. The United States was represented at the conference by the Royal Military College of Canada, while the Citadel represented Canada. The US Air Force Academy represented Lithuania. None of these prestigious military academies won team awards at the conference.

Morgan Knowles served as NATO Team Captain. She not only took primary responsibility for training our delegates in NATO style debate, she managed the travel logistics and hotel reservations for the team. Beyond all of this, she led by example and won an individual award in the Defense Planning Committee. Natasha Quintana served as Associate Captain and ably assisted with travel logistics and team preparation. She served on the Nuclear Planning Group. Emily Bateman and Thomas Farmer won an Outstanding Delegation Award in the Political Affairs Committee while Laura Alford and Asha Leaphart were recognized for excellence in the Euro Atlantic Partnership Council. Annie Hill capably represented the United Kingdom in the Emerging Security Challenges Committee, and Noelle Lashley represented the United Kingdom in the fiercely competitive North Atlantic Council (NAC). After one of her speeches in the NAC, a half dozen other delegates pounded the table in affirmation. In every committee, our students earned the respect and admiration of other delegates and other faculty advisors for the key role they played in their committees. All of them exhibited the highest standards of academic preparation and diplomatic poise.

Professor Stephen McKelvey, who serves as faculty advisor for the team, notes that every Kennesaw State student on the team fulfilled his or her role in the conference with conscientious dedication and resolute determination. Having advised more than twenty Kennesaw collegiate simulation teams, he notes that this is one of his all-time favorite teams because every student went above and beyond in their efforts to represent the United Kingdom with skill and professionalism. Each student put the interest of the team above their own interest and each was steadfastly diplomatic and pleasant during long days of rigorous debate.

Department News & Notes (continued)

KSU Mock Mediation Excels

by Heather Pincock

The KSU Mediation Owls had a great year attending three tournaments during the busy fall season. At the Brenau Invitational Tournament in Gainesville GA (Oct. 10-11) KSU placed well with a top advocate award (Melanie Clinton), a top mediator award (Askari Dobbs), 4th place advocate/client team (Michael Campbell, Melanie Clinton, Courtney Skeete), 3rd place advocate/client team (Askari Dobbs, Claudine Pierremoise, Jackson Young) and a 5th place overall finish (Askari Dobbs, Claudine Pierremoise, Jackson Young). Another highlight, away from tournament play, took place when the team worked together to change a flat tire early Saturday morning while still managing to make it to the tournament on time!

The Mediation Owls also participated in the Georgia State Peacemaking tournament on October 24th. The team had a great experience and team member, Askari Dobbs, received a top mediator award. The team's season rounded out with the National Tournament on Nov. 6-8, again at Brenau University in Gainesville but this time with over 40 teams participating. KSU received high honors winning the H. Case Ellis "Spirit of Mediation" award. Unlike all the other awards determined by judges observing the rounds, this award is based upon peer-to-peer scoring. The award went to KSU Mediation Owl, Melanie Clinton, for her part on a "by-team" composed of students from both KSU and Georgia State. This is especially impressive because it demonstrated their ability to collaborate well without advance preparation.

Congratulations to the 2014-2015 Mock Mediation Team members for their great work: Askari Dobbs, Claudine Pierremoise, Chicary Smith, Courtney Skeete, Kensley Fields, Melanie Clinton, Michael Campbell, Jackson Young. Special thanks to INCM Ph.D. student Wim Laven for his help advising and coaching the team this year!



Back row (left to right): Jackson Young, Askari Dobbs, Michael Campbell. Front row (left to right): Claudine Pierremoise, Melanie Clinton, Courtney Skeete. Not pictured but very proud: Heather Pincock

Department News & Notes (continued)

Another Strong Year for Model Arab League

by Thomas Doleys

It was another strong year for the KSU Model Arab League. This year the students chose to represent the Sultanate of Oman. The choice was made to coincide with KSU's campus-wide Year of the Arabian Peninsula Program. The students learned a lot about this little understood, but fascinating country, and took their new-found knowledge to two competitions. In March the students made the short ride up I-85 to Spartanburg, South Carolina to compete at the Southeast Regional Model Arab League (SERMAL) held on the campus of Converse College. The students had a great time and should be justly proud of their performances. Two team members, however, merit special recognition. Emily Batemen and Elise Williard each earned Outstanding Delegate Awards, Emily for her performance on the Heads of State Council & Elise for her performance on the Social Affairs Council. Three weeks later the team traveled to Washington, DC to attend the National University Model Arab League (NUMAL) competition. Hosted at Georgetown University, the conference was the largest and most competitive in years. The KSU community should be proud of the team's performance, though no awards were earned. Shortly after returning from NUMAL the team assembled to select the team captain for 2015-16. I am pleased to announce that the team members selected Annie Hill. It was also decided that the team will represent Djibouti at next year's SERMAL and NUMAL conferences. Thank you to all the students who were a part of the 2014-2015 KSU Model Arab League team: Laura Alford, Emily Bateman, Kelli Maria Crawford, Vanessa Godinez, Annie Hill, Kyle Roberts, Abdel Sharkasi, and Elise Williard (Team Captain).

Mock Trial Team Continues to Impress

by Elizabeth Gordon

KSU Mock Trial, aka the Mocking Owls, had a busy 2014-2015 season, running from August to March. The team competed at six invitational tournaments in addition to the AMTA regional qualifier and the national championship's opening round. One highlight of the invitational season was our first-ever competition in Texas, with six students competing at Austin College in January. Another highlight was KSU's own Owl Classic in October, which in its fifth year was the largest Owl ever with five KSU teams and 25 visiting teams competing. A number of KSU alumni participated in the Owl as judges or in administrative capacities, most notably recent KSU graduate Misty Gann who served as tournament coordinator. Through the year, KSU met teams from Georgia Tech, Emory, and the University of Florida for informal scrimmages. In special practice sessions, team members got help with public speaking from Emily Holler of KSU's Department of Communication and acting from Dean Robin Dorff.

KSU students winning individual awards at 2014-2015 tournaments include: Juan Ortiz (one outstanding witness award), Lynn Zibanejadrad (two outstanding witness awards), B.J. Moates (two outstanding attorney awards) and Callie Christian (four outstanding attorney awards). In addition to these four, other students competing at the regional qualifier and national championship's opening round include: Tamika Bowe, Kensley Fields, Elena Hernandez, Ashli Howell, Carlton Stewart, and Jon Wade. Professor Elizabeth Gordon serves as the team's faculty advisor and educator-coach.

Department News & Notes (continued)

Model African Union Completes An Impressive Year

by Alla Yoonis (MAU Team Captain)

This year the Model African Union Team had the great opportunity to participate in the Annual South East Model African Union (SEMAU) Conference at Clayton State University and the National Conference, hosted by Howard University in Washington, D.C. KSU delegates represented Uganda, Cote D'Ivoire, and Zimbabwe at both conferences. The keynote speaker at SEMAU was the Ugandan Ambassador to the United States, Her Excellency Mrs. Oliver Wonehka, who spoke on the critical role of women in Uganda's development.

KSU delegates represented each of their countries in six committees: Economic Matters, Social Matters, Committee on Democracy, Governance and Human Rights, Executive Council, Peace and Security, and the Committee on Regional Economic Communities (REC's). Within each committee the delegates worked with each other to produce a resolution to benefit not only the sponsoring countries, but also Africa as a whole. Several KSU students earned awards at the regional conference. These include Lauren Lowers (UGANDA), Ogechukwu Agim (COTE D'IVOIRE), Marie Ahebée – Honorable Mention (ZIMBABWE), Mo Richards (UGANDA), Tosin Akogun (ZIMBABWE), Priscilla Owusu – Honorable Mention (COTE D'IVOIRE), Queen Anaeki – Honorable Mention (COTE D'IVOIRE)



Of the more than forty-five delegations represented at national, KSU delegates won outstanding delegation awards (Lauren Lowers and Hadiza Lawal), and an honorable mention award (Tosin Akogun). The keynote speaker at the national conference opening ceremony was Her Excellency, Ambassador Amina Salim Ali, Ambassador of the African Union to the United States. The team was accompanied and strongly supported at both regional and national conferences by Dr. Nurudeen Akinyemi, faculty advisor, and Dr. Ikechukwu Ukeje of the Bagwell College of Education. We are grateful for both faculty advisors guidance and support in all the pre-conference activities, including twice weekly practices, research, and area content expertise.

Department News & Notes (continued)

High School Model UN Conference A Success

by Chien-pin Li

The 2015 KSU High School Model United Nations Conference was held [April 25](#) on the Kennesaw Campus. Approximately 400 high school students from 17 high schools in metro-Atlanta participated in the event, representing 47 countries. Under the leadership of the Secretary General Nicolas Corn, Under Secretary General Justin Rivard, and Director General Cristina Packham, with the assistance of Ms. Linda Caudell, our student staff did a wonderful job serving as Directors and Chairs for 11 committees. Dr. Bill Gillespie and Professor Stephen McKelvey provided valuable service for Home Government. To return the conference to its traditional two-day schedule, the staffers plan to host the 2016 KSUHSMUN Conference on the Marietta Campus.

POLS Convenes Advisory Board

By Andrew Pieper

On May 7, 2015, the Political Science Undergraduate Program formed its first permanent Advisory Board. This board, consisting of KSU Alumni, prominent community members, and public officials serving in both elected and non-elected positions, will help guide the Program and develop a foundation for strength and innovation in the coming years.

Board members will be led by three “Task Force” groups—Alumni Relations, Development, and Networking. These groups will work to organize events, raise money to support student and faculty development, and create and maintain relationships between the program, students, alumni, and community organizations. The Department and Program would like to thank the members of the Advisory Board for their service and commitment to expanding opportunities for our students and training the next generation of public servants and policy experts.

Advisory Board Members

Brian Annino	Ernesto Ausejo	Stephen Butler	David Chastain
Taifa Smith Butler	John Carson	Shawn Davis	Benita Dodd
Diana Eckles	Earl Ehrhart	Steve Ellis	Stacey Evans
Slade Gullledge	Alexandra Holland	Scott Light	Brittany Link
Joel Mendelson	Nels Peterson	Elizabeth Poythress	Tricia Pridemore
Jamila Pope	Bert Reeves	Kevin Schmidt	Ed Setzler
Lindsey Tippins	James Touchton	Bob Weatherford	David Wilkerson
Rose Wing			

Department News & Notes (continued)

Public Administration Student Association Wins “Spotlight of the Year” Award

by Bill Baker

The Public Administration Student Association (PASA) was recognized at this year’s Golden O’s Award banquet by winning the “Spotlight of the Year Award” for 2014-2015. The Department of Student Life chooses one student organization that continuously follows the guidelines established by the Department and SABAC and who responsibly used the resources available to them and fulfilled all organizational obligations and expectations outlined by the Department.

It was a very busy year for PASA who initiated and implemented several opportunities for public administration students at KSU. PASA held a welcoming event each semester for incoming MPA students before their orientation. Throughout the academic year they held special events for students including a Career Pathways Workshop, a Community Engagement activity, a Meet MPA Alumni event, a Policy Competition, and several social events for students.

“This award is well deserved” said Bill Baker, faculty advisor. “Each event had to be planned, organized, and implemented which is time consuming. It is a fitting award for the public administration association who did all this in accordance to the rules and regulations of the Department of Student Life and SABAC.”



From left to right: Bill Baker, Faculty Advisor; Nancy Latroch, Treasurer, Kate Chukwu, Vice President, Paula Bechtler, Secretary, and Joyce Yung, President.

Department News & Notes (continued)

First Ever KSU Day at State Capitol

by Tara Stricko

On March 25th, 2015, Kennesaw State held its first KSU Day at the state capitol. Current and past POLS/IA interns joined faculty, staff, alumni, and President Papp to raise awareness for the university, network politically, and generally have a good time. KSU's Farm to Table initiative provided lunch and the university was recognized on the floor of the Senate with several official legislative proclamations. For more information and a video, please link [here](#).

Every year the POLS/IA Department's Internship Program places highly motivated students with important positions at the state capitol. Recent interns have served in the offices of individual Senators and Representatives as well as various support departments for the legislature itself. Internships provide a chance to gain real-world experience, make valuable contacts, and often lead to fulltime jobs for Kennesaw students after graduation.



Any interested students may contact Dr. Tara Stricko, Chair of the Department Internship Committee tstricko@kennesaw.edu or talk to an academic advisor for more information. Students may earn 3, 6, 9, or 12 credit hours for internships. KSU has placed students with various corporate, governmental, legal, NGO-oriented entities all over the state, the country, and the globe.

Department News & Notes (continued)

POLS-IA Launches Promotional Video

The department is proud to have launched a promotional video which highlights its overarching commitments to teaching, learning, research, and service. This video is found at <http://psia.hss.kennesaw.edu/> and by clicking on the box below.

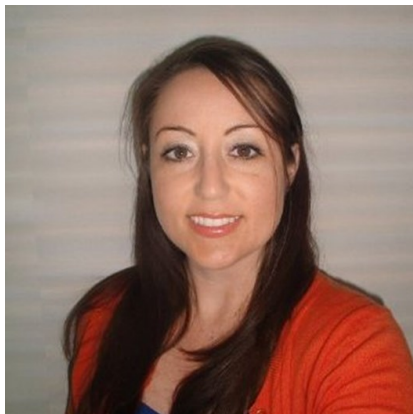


Faculty News & Notes

New Faces



Jerry Herbel is Director of the MPA Program and Associate Professor of Public Administration at Kennesaw State University. Before coming to KSU, Herbel taught at Georgia College in Milledgeville, Georgia from 2005-2015. He served in the US Air Force and Air Force Reserve for 25 years with assignments to Indiana, Texas, Oklahoma, Georgia, Japan, Saudi Arabia and Washington, D.C. Herbel earned a B.S. in Public Affairs from Emporia State University, an MPA from the University of Oklahoma, and a Ph.D. in Political Science, also from the University of Oklahoma. Herbel teaches courses on public management, budgeting, and administrative ethics. In addition to teaching, he conducts research in a variety of areas including the history of public administration, public ethics and administrative reform. His research has been published in *Public Integrity* and the *American Review of Public Administration*.



April Johnson earned her Ph.D. in Political Science from Stony Brook University in 2014. Her research and teaching interests focus on American Politics, specifically Electoral Behavior, Parties and Elections, Political Psychology, Mass Media, and Experimental Methods. Presently, Dr. Johnson's research examines how political and social contexts influence political cognition and participatory behavior.



Joshua Johnson was born and raised in Omaha, NE and graduated from Creighton University in 2008. He received his Ph.D. in Political Science at Stony Brook University in 2014. His research and teaching interests fall into broad fields of American Politics and Political Methodology. His more specific interests include judicial politics, with an emphasis on the United States Supreme Court. He also has an interest in, and has presented and/or published research, in Minority Politics (including American Indian Politics), American Presidency, and Time Series Methodology. Dr. Johnson's dissertation examined how Supreme Court decision making is influenced at multiple levels by exogenous factors (mainly the US economy). In his free time, he enjoys reading, cooking, and playing tennis.

Faculty News & Notes (continued)

New Faces



Becky LeFebvre is a Lecturer in PSIA and previously was faculty at SPSU in the Social and International Studies department. She received her Ph.D. from KSU in International Conflict Management. Her research includes the study of decision-making in conflict situations and the study of peacekeeping in West Africa. She is currently researching the impact of digital technology and social media on collective action. Becky has twenty-five years of experience in the technology industry at companies such as NASA, Motorola, and Turner Broadcasting. She has experience with managing teams of all sizes up to a global staff of 150 people spanning six countries. She was honored to receive the 2011 Clendenin Graduate Fellowship at KSU in support of her dissertation research in Ghana, and the 2007 Betsy Magness Leadership

Fellowship from Women in Cable Telecommunications in support of her industry leadership. Previously she earned a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Rice University and a Master of Science in Computer Science from National Technological University.



Cynthia Michota has been at KSU since January 2013 and teaches introductory courses in American Government, International Relations, and Global Issues. She holds a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Florida (2000) and is finishing a Ph.D. in Political Science, with specialization in Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Conflict and Security Studies. Prior to joining KSU, she worked with undergraduates at Georgia State University, teaching courses in Global Issues and Comparative Politics for three years and then serving as a Writing Across the Curriculum Consultant for two years. Her professional service includes a fellowship with the Democracy Program at The Carter Center (2008-2009) and research contributions to the International Peace Institute study *Compliance with UNSC Resolutions in Civil Wars*. In addition to presenting research on external intervention

and constitutional engineering in civil conflicts, she also contributed to *Security Studies: An Introduction* (Routledge 2008). While focused primarily on civil conflict, particularly institutional peacebuilding, ethno-nationalist political parties, and external intervention, her research interests extend to international humanitarian and human rights law; democratic consolidation; and international organizations.

Faculty News & Notes (continued)

New Faces



Thomas Nisley's areas of interest in teaching and research include Latin American politics, security studies, and U.S. foreign policy. Dr. Nisley has two current research projects. One project explores the role of the Peace Corps in U.S. foreign policy. The other project examines US/Argentine relations and the concept of friendship in international relations. He has published articles in peer-reviewed journals such as *Politics & Policy*, *International Politics*, and the *Journal of American Studies*. He wrote, along with his wife Clara, a book chapter in an edited volume titled *Downton Abbey and Philosophy* (forthcoming in fall 2015). Before his career in academia, Thomas served for 27 months as a Peace Corps Volunteer in the Dominican Republic.



Thomas Rotnem is a Professor of Political Science in the newly consolidated Kennesaw State University Department of Political Science and International Affairs. He teaches courses in international relations, political economy, comparative politics, and Russian politics. Dr. Rotnem earned his Ph.D. in Political Science from The Ohio State University, as well as a Graduate Certificate as Specialist in Russian Area Studies. In addition, since coming to Georgia, he has earned a M.B.A. (in Finance) from Georgia State University. He has received four teaching awards from his university, including "Teacher of the Year" in 2011-2012. Pursuing research interests in the political economy of oil/gas markets in Eurasia, Sino-Russian relations, and Russia's Arctic policies, he has benefited from grants or fellowships from a variety of sources, including the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Department of Education, the Social Science Research Council, the International Research and Exchanges Board (IREX), and the Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Studies. In 2010 he spent a semester abroad in Riga, Latvia as a Fulbright scholar. Beyond his teaching and research interests, Dr. Rotnem has recently served as the President of the Georgia Political Science Association, the second-largest statewide political science organization in the United States."

Faculty News & Notes (continued)

New Faces



Carl Snook received his Ph.D. in political science from Michigan State University in 2013. His majors were American Politics and Public Policy with a minor in Political Methodology. He is interested in public policy, Congress, the Supreme Court, and electoral politics. Dr. Snook's dissertation dealt with state-to-state variations in primary and secondary education policy. At SPSU, he taught a full range of courses in US political institutions, political behavior, public policy, and research methods. At KSU, he will have the opportunity to focus on research design and Congress and will also be teaching an honors American government course and a standard American government course. In other iterations of his life, Dr. Snook was a machine operator and rotational mold coordinator making toys, an insurance agent with clients from all walks of life, a newspaper circulation supervisor, a political activist. He has master's degrees from both Michigan State University and Kent State University. He is married with one daughter.

Faculty News & Notes (continued)

Dr. Tavishi Bhasin completed a year as a visiting scholar at the Center for International Development and Conflict Management at the University of Maryland where she was working on a book project on changes in demands for autonomy from ethnic groups. She was also awarded a college summer research grant for the same project.

Dr. Charity Butcher published an article on “Terrorism and External Audiences: Influencing Foreign Intervention into Civil Wars, Terrorism and Political Violence” in *Terrorism and Political Violence*, and an article, co-authored with **Dr. Timothy Kersey**, titled “When Winning is Really Losing: Teaching Awards and Women Political Science Faculty” in *PS: Political Science & Politics*. Dr. Butcher also presented a paper, co-authored with **Dr. Maia Hallward**, on “Bridging the Gap between Human Rights and Peace: An Analysis of NGOs and the United Nations Human Rights Council” and participated on three roundtables at the International Studies Association Annual Conference. She also secured a summer research grant to develop The Handbook of Cross-Border Ethnic and Religious Affinity.

Dr. Stephen Collins published an article titled “The Strategic Effects of South-South Foreign Aid in *The New England Journal of Political Science* and presented on “Economic Incentives and Nuclear Counterproliferation” and “The Global Strategic Effects of China’s Foreign Aid Program” at the World International Studies Committee (WISC)/International Studies Association (ISA) Joint International Conference in Frankfurt, Germany

Dr. Jeff DeWitt co-authored an article with **Dr. Kerwin Swint** and Communication professors Joshua Azriel and Carolyn Carlson titled “[An Applied Learning Experience: Field Research and Reporting at the 2012 National Party Conventions](#),” which was published in *International Journal of Scholarship of Teaching and Learning*. Dr. DeWitt was winner of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences Outstanding Teacher Award.

Judge Bruce Flower served as rules official at his 19th consecutive U.S. Open Championship, and 19th consecutive NCAA Division I or II National Championship.

Dr. Sherrill Hayes received a Faculty Learning Community Grant from CETL at KSU on “Exploring the mind-body connection in human conflict: Learning from neuroscience and physiological psychology” Dr. Hayes also presented at the three sessions, including on “Pop Culture Peacebuilding: Why Star Wars, Doctor Who and the Hobbit are Essential to the Future of Conflict Resolution Education,” “Full immersion simulation as a means to building career ready skills and awareness: The Atlantic Hope experience” (co-presented with David Smith, Mara Schoeny), and “Using Photovoice as a Conflict Engagement Strategy in Diverse Communities. (co-presented with Birthe Reimers).at the Association for Conflict Resolution Annual Conference. He also co-facilitated a workshop on “Non-violent direct action” at the Amnesty International USA Southern Regional Conference and conducted two nights of training for Junior League of Atlanta Annual Fall Training on “Know yourself, know your community: Understanding your conflict management style, and visited the European Akademie at Otzenhausen (EAO) and Saarland University in Germany with Dean Robin Dorff to help establish a partnership with MSCM and these institutions and to conduct a site visit for a Study Abroad Program.

Faculty News & Notes (continued)

Dr. Timothy Hedeem was appointed University Ombudsman. He also presented on “When Mediation Goes To Court” and “The (In)Appropriate Role of Mediator Pressure” at the ADR Institute and Georgia Neutrals’ Conference, presented a training for International Collegiate Mediation Tournament titled “Setting the Mediation Table for Success: Screening and Preparation,” and delivered “Unpacking the Mediator’s Toolbox, Part I” at Health Care Ethics Consortium of Georgia.”

Dr. Timothy Kersey co-authored an article with **Dr. Charity Butcher** titled “When Winning is Really Losing: Teaching Awards and Women Political Science Faculty,” which was published in *PS: Political Science & Politics*.

Dr. Becky LeFebvre co-authored a paper with Marcus Marktanner entitled "Did 9/11 change the New York state of mind? Lessons from NYC’s leisure and hospitality labor market" that was published in *Tourism Economics*. She was also a panelist at the ISSS/ISAC Annual Conference in Austin, Texas to discuss her chapter in the book *Understanding Complex Military Operations: Using Case Studies for Teaching Security*. Dr. LeFebvre was also a research mentor for two undergraduate students in the Peach State Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority participation (PSLSAMP) program, helping the students develop software for mining Twitter data on the school girl kidnapping in Nigeria under the #BringBackOurGirls campaign. They collected hundreds of thousands of tweets and put together a data analysis of the results which they presented at a conference at the Georgia Institute of Technology in September.

Dr. Jack Moran won the College of Humanities and Social Sciences Distinguished Professor Award.

Dr. Barbara Neuby published two book chapters dealing with homeland security equipment sales and disaster reimbursement in *Crisis and Emergency Management: Theory and Practice*, CRC Press and presented on "Managing the One-World Currency” at the Southeast Conference on Public Administration . She is currently working on a paper regarding the global move toward a single currency. Dr. Neuby was recognized by MPA Student, Paula Bechtler, as a Graduate Faculty Mentor in the Adult Learner Recognition Program.

Dr. Christopher Pallas co-authored an article with INCM Ph.D. student Kim Fletcher, titled “Why Do Activists Lobby Institutions that Have Already Reformed? Modeling Target Selection and Learning in NGO Advocacy” which was published in *Journal of International Relations and Development*. Dr. Pallas was finalist for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences Outstanding Early Career Award.

Dr. Andrew Pieper was finalist for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences Engagement Award.

Dr. Susan Raines presented her recent research on “Violence and Safety in Mediation” to mediators in Dekalb County, presented a summary of trends and challenges facing the field of mediators in Cartersville for the 7th District Courts, and spoke at the Georgia Neutrals Conference on the topic of Online Dispute Resolution.

Faculty News & Notes (continued)

Dr. Heather Pincock published an article on ethics exams with **Dr. Tim Hedeem** in ACR's magazine ACResolution: "Examining Mediators on Ethics: Why, When, and How." She also presented at the Association for Political Theory's First Book Manuscript Workshop in Madison, WI where her manuscript "Making Better Citizens? Assessing Deliberation's Educative Effects" was reviewed and critiqued by a panel of scholars. She also traveled to Cambodia with the CXV and supervised students as they completed their fieldwork and final reports.

Dr. Kenneth White published [*The American Republic: Socrates, Paine, Lincoln, and King*](#) with Kendall Hunt. This book presents an analysis of the American founding using the lens of classical political philosophy to reveal the central role Socratic principles played in the beginning of the United States, in the Civil War, and in the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s. By explicating primary source materials, the balance called for by political philosophy between liberty and security is presented as a normative end of American Government for each generation to struggle to achieve. The American Republic encourages students to contemplate what it means to be an American and to get involved in the political process as informed and active citizens.

Dr. Michele Zebich-Knos, Professor Emeritus and founding director of the MSIPM Program, published a chapter titled "Managing Polar Policy through Public and Private Regulatory Standards: The Case of Tourism in the Antarctic" in [*Diplomacy on Ice*](#), Rebecca Pincus and Saleem H. Ali, eds. (Yale University Press, 2015).



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