

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

SKIDMORE COLLEGE
Government Department

Fall 2008

LETTER FROM DEPARTMENT CHAIR:
KATE GRANEY

Hello Government Majors,

I hope that the fall newsletter finds you all well, despite the creeping cold and darkness that is our lot in the Northeast in late October.

We have had a wonderful semester so far, and with the election next week, the department is fairly humming with anticipation and excitement. Thanks to Professor Flagg Taylor, we have already had two wonderful Constitution Day speakers this fall, and the department's keynote speaker for the year, Rogers Smith, our latest Fiscus Lecturer, will be presenting Thursday October 30th at 8pm in Gannett Auditorium. His topic "Barack Obama and the Future of Race in America," could not be more timely, so please come and urge your friends to do so as well.

After the Fiscus and election, the events keep coming. Prof. Roy Ginsberg has organized a visit by Alan Cafruny of Hamilton College, who'll be here on November 6 at 5:30 in Ladd 307 to discuss "Russia, the Near Abroad, and the Next US President." You'll also find a fascinating interview with Prof. Ginsberg in this newsletter about his meeting earlier this month with the president of the European Union - very exciting stuff!

We have some great topics classes coming up for next semester that you should consider too – Prof. Burns' GO 351 on Xenophon's *Anabasis*, Prof. Turner's GO 376 on the Politics of Immigration, and Prof. Vacs' GO 366 on Globalization—you'll find descriptions for these courses in this newsletter.

If you are thinking about an internship for next semester or the summer in the field of American Politics, please don't forget about the Levine Internship Awards, which carry a stipend of \$1000 for the spring semester and \$3000 for the summer. The application is available on our website. Deadlines for the Levine Internship Awards are as follows: for Spring Semester 2009, December 10; for Summer 2009, April 29.

I hope everyone has a wonderful, productive and healthy rest of the semester.

Best wishes,

Kate Graney

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Faculty News

Catching up with the Department

SIMONE PEREZ '10

Kate Graney has been invited to teach a four week course over the break at Ben Gurion University in Beer Sheva, Israel, for their Masters in Middle East Studies program. She will be taking this wonderful opportunity to offer a course that deals with the area of her research that covers Islam in Russia. It will be an amazing opportunity for Professor Graney and her family who will be accompanying her, as they visit Israel as well as Cairo, and possibly Petra in Jordan. In addition Professor Graney's book *Of Khans and Kremlins: Tatarstan and the Future of Ethnofederalism in Russia* will be coming out this November.

Flagg Taylor is working on an edited volume of anti-totalitarian writings called *Modern Tyranny: Ideology and Totalitarianism since 1917*. It will include essays by well known thinkers such as Czeslaw Milosz, Václav Havel, and Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn as well as less well known figures like Waldemar Gurian, Jan Patočka and Václav Benda. He anticipates that this book will come out fall 2009.

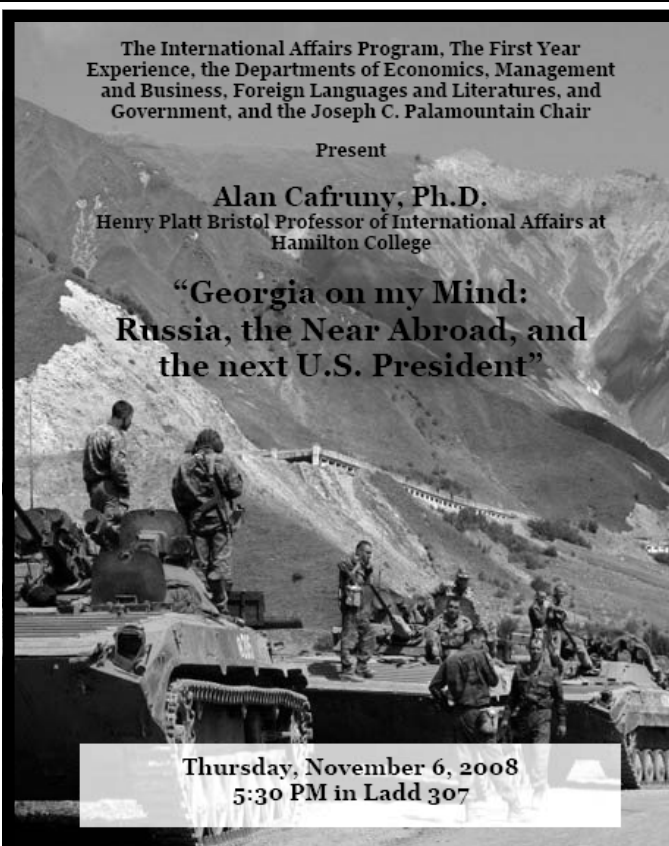
Beau Breslin book *From Words to Worlds: Exploring Constitutional Functionality* will be coming out this December. In his book Professor Breslin addresses the key question of what are constitutions designed to do, looking at the structure and why constitutions matter. Professor Breslin examines the theoretical concepts that lay behind written constitutions, looking at important constitutional charters from across the globe.

Pat Ferraioli along with four of her students attended the showing of "Frozen River" at the Spectrum Theater. The story centers around Ray Eddy who is an up-state New York trailer mom who enters the world of illegal immigrant smuggling after she meets a Mohawk girl who is a resident of a reservation on the US-Canadian border. Later this semester three students accompany Professor Ferraioli to the 5th Annual Haudenosuanee conference: *Moving Beyond ID Cards: The Search for Native Citizenry* at the Syracuse University College of Law. In addition to those student activities, Professor Ferraioli provided two training sessions for SGA, one on August 27th "the Art of Negotiation" and the other on October 8th on "The Art of Public Speaking. And, last but not least, she is also part of the Faculty Learning Community, which is intended to welcome and provide support for new faculty members, and share knowledge with one another to help achieve excellence in and out of the classroom.

This past May, **Steve Hoffmann** participated in the National Security Seminar, NSS, at the U.S. Army War College. The NSS is the annual wrap up of the academic year for masters degree level military officers in which ci-

vilians are invited to attend an intensive week of discussion and deliberation. The days would begin with all of the participants hearing a lecture from a prominent speaker concerning issues of foreign policy, or defense, after which the participants would split up into the seminars to further discuss the issues that were brought up in the lecture. Professor Hoffmann was able to interact with many officers concerning military affairs, who provided useful information for his "Military and Political Lessons from WWII" class.

Robert Turner has been busy coordinating "Living the Liberal Arts: Life During and After Majoring in Government", the event on November 11th will have alumni speakers including: Adam Brand, Chief of Staff for Patrick Kennedy, D-RI, Rachel Silberman, Policy Analyst for the Maryland General Assembly, Gregory Thall, Chief Counsel for Energy for Governor Rendell from Pennsylvania, Dave Thayer, Project Manager for CLF Ventures, a private environmental consulting organization, and Kate Imbach, Director of Marketing and Developer Programs at Skyhook Wireless.



The International Affairs Program, The First Year
Experience, the Departments of Economics, Management
and Business, Foreign Languages and Literatures, and
Government, and the Joseph C. Palamountain Chair

Present

Alan Cafruny, Ph.D.
Henry Platt Bristol Professor of International Affairs at
Hamilton College

**"Georgia on my Mind:
Russia, the Near Abroad, and
the next U.S. President"**

Thursday, November 6, 2008
5:30 PM in Ladd 307

Academic Council

JULIA BIENSTOCK '09

Greetings from your Academic Council representative. Academic Council meets every Tuesday and is open to the public. The Council is made up of student representatives from every academic department, and seeks to facilitate an open dialogue among students and faculty on academic issues and concerns. The Council has been working on a variety of projects this semester; and has created five subcommittees to carry out these initiatives.

The Out of Classroom Discussion Committee has been working hard to finalize and publicize this fund, which provides students with financial support to have a meal or grab a coffee with a professor to talk about anything they please. The goal of this program is to facilitate close relationships between students and professors.

A second subcommittee is looking at the possibility of creating a "J-Term"—which would allow students to enroll in classes over winter break. The Assessment Subcommittee is discussing how to assess what Skidmore students are learning, and how they are learning etc. The Honor Code Subcommittee is working to understand the ins and outs of the Skidmore honor code, as well as working to come up with ways to better inform students about the code in its entirety. Today, students know very little about the honor code beyond the sentence that is required to be written when taking exams. Finally, the Academic Council Elections Subcommittee is co-sponsoring a pre-election event entitled Fueling the Future Environmental Politics 2008. This event will be held October 27th from 7:00 - 8:30am in Gannett Auditorium. Faculty members will discuss

critical environmental issues that are pertinent to the presidential election including global warming, the energy crisis, ethanol and alternative energy sources.

As the government Academic Council representative, I provide a voice for all students and I also serve as a liaison between government professors and student government majors. Over the past two years, the government department has been working hard to make the major even more stimulating and comprehensive. Starting this year, government majors are required to take introduction to political philosophy in addition to the previous introductory requirements of comparative and international politics and American government. While it is a necessary improvement to the major, I believe there is another requirement that should be added in order for Skidmore government majors to receive the most comprehensive government education. Skidmore government majors should be required to take economics. While such a requirement may scare some students and possibly deter them from majoring in government, I believe it is an essential study area for anyone majoring in government. Today, it is hard to understand the ins and outs of government, international or American, without having a basic understanding of economic principles. I would like to begin this discussion, and see what students and faculty think about revising government major requirements to include an economic component. Whether it is part of an already existing course or is an introductory course, I am hoping to create a dialogue to get an understanding of student and faculty opinions on the idea of increasing economic education of government majors. Please feel free to contact me at jbiensto@skidmore.edu.

What Are You Listening to on Your iPod?

Professor Beau Breslin:

Ben Folds
Death Cab for Cutie
Josh Rouse
Peter Gabriel
...and the occasional Broadway Musical

Professor Pat Ferraioli:

Kid Rock, "All Summer Long"
Santana, "Migra"
Frank Sinatra, "Fly Me to the Moon"
Janice Joplin, "Summertime"
Who, "Won't Get Fooled Again"
Alison Kraus and Robert Plant, "Nothing"
Dave Matthews, "Gravedigger"
Melissa Ethridge, "Like the Way I Do"
Yo-Yo Ma and Bobby McFerrin, "Orchestra Suite no. 3"
Van Morrison, "Brown Eyed Girl"



Professor Bob Turner:

Bob Dylan, "Masters of War"
The Clash, "Brand New Cadillac"
Rolling Stones, "Gimme Shelter"
Metallica, "Enter the Sandman"
Green Day, "Basket Case"
ACDC, "Thunderstruck"
Gnarles Barkely, "Gone Daddy Gone"
Katy Perry, "I Kissed a Girl"
Rihanna, "Disturbia"
Pink, "So What"



Professor Ron Seyb:

Feist, "I Feel it All"
Alanis Morissette, "Hands Clean"
The Clash, "Should I Stay or Should I Go"
Talking Heads, "Girlfriend is Better"
The Pretenders, "Don't Get Me Wrong"
Bruce Springsteen, "Badlands"
Ethel Merman, et. al., "There's No Business Like Show Business"

Barenaked Ladies, "If I Had A Million Dollars"
Saving Jane, "Girl Next Door"
Jimmy Cliff, "The Harder They Come"

Professor Flagg Taylor:

The Jayhawks
Pete Yorn
Ryan Adams and the Cardinals
Johnny Cash
Aretha Franklin
Haydn Symphonies
Duke Ellington
A novel by Alan Furst, *The World at Night* (historical espionage)

Professor Roy Ginsberg:

Schuman's Piano Quintet op. 44
Holst's *The Planets*
Beethoven's 9th symphony

Revitalizing Transatlantic Relations

MIHAELA DAVID '10

Dr. Roy H. Ginsberg was asked by European Commission President José Manuel Barroso, former Portuguese Prime Minister, to meet with him and other American academic specialists on the European Union during President Barroso's visit to the United Nations on September 22 in New York. The other professors came from Columbia University and Princeton University. The two-hour lunch meeting at the European Union's UN ambassador's residence was an opportunity for President Barroso and the American professors to discuss the future of the EU and EU-U.S. relations after the U.S. presidential elections. The Europeans are preparing their strategy toward the United States in response to the arrival of the new occupant of the White House in January.

Much of the conversation was "off the record." However, Dr. Ginsberg was able to share with us some of his overall impressions of President Barroso's thoughts in an interview.

David: "Both the EU and the U.S. face major global challenges. How did President Barroso say they can address them and how did he describe the collaboration with the Bush Administration?"

Ginsberg: "President Barroso talked about the need for US-EU cooperation on all major issues in the global political economy: trade liberalization, economic development, energy, climate change, global health, proliferation, and antiterrorism/anticrime. The President stressed the invaluable importance of transatlantic cooperation in solving these and other global problems. On President Bush's knowledge of European affairs, the President opined that the U.S. President has gotten to know the Europeans very well during his second term as the U.S. and the EU improved relations when compared to the tensions of the first term."

David: "What were Barroso's thoughts on the EU's response to the Russian invasion of Georgia and on Ukraine's EU accession chances?"

Ginsberg: "Barroso explained his satisfaction over the EU's support of Georgia, but explained how difficult it is for the twenty-seven EU member states to form a common policy when member states have different levels of energy dependency on the Russians. On Ukraine's bid to join the EU, the President said that the EU cannot offer membership until Ukraine itself knows what it wants to do: some Ukrainians want EU membership; others want closer relations with Russia. The President thought it was the correct policy to tell the Ukrainian President on his recent official visit to the EU that there was no membership perspective at this time."

David: "How does the Irish referendum rejection of the Lisbon reform treaty affect the EU and what is the future of the treaty?"

Ginsberg: "President Barroso felt the EU was in a tough spot over the Irish no vote on the EU constitutional treaty. On the issue of a second Irish referendum on the EU constitutional treaty, the President thought there was a window of opportunity for a second vote in 2009 (in order to address Irish concerns) just before the British parliamentary elections in 2010. President Barroso felt strongly about the need to adopt the new EU constitution given that it would strengthen the EU, e.g., it would provide for a two and a half year-long EU Council Presidency over the current six month term."

David: "What views and suggestions did you bring to the discussion with President Barroso and what were your impressions after meeting him?"

Ginsberg: "I engaged the President in a wide ranging review and critique of the current architecture of U.S.-EU coop-

eration and what can be done to improve the modalities of cooperation in 2009. I also conveyed to President Barroso my thoughts about the growing importance of the European Union to the United States in the global political economy. American cognizance and the EU's importance in world affairs is demonstrated by the frequency with which both candidates for the U.S. Presidency mention their support for, and interest in working with, the EU to secure solutions to all the major problems in the world, from Georgia and Ukraine to energy and the environment and to trade, development, nation-building, ending the violence in Sudan, and relations with Russia and China. I left the meeting with a new appreciation of the challenging and difficult position the EU Commission President is in as he tries to fashion common solutions to European and global problems among the twenty-seven member governments of the European Union. President Barroso was approachable, pensive, and open to suggestions."



José Manuel Barroso's five-year term as European Commission President expires in 2009. He would be eligible for a second term if the EU member governments select him and he is willing to serve again.

Everything Old is New Again?

LAURA SWARTZ '10

There's a cartoon from the *New Yorker* that Professor Graney has on the door to her office. It's of a bunch of generals and government types sitting around a table with a map of Russia on the wall, and the caption reads "The return of the Cold War - am I the only one who feels I'm putting on a comfortable pair of old shoes?" I'm sure to many political scientists, it does.

So it's not unusual to look into the annals of the Government Department and find work on Eastern Europe and communism, a topic which finds relevance again today with the crisis in Georgia. Take Mary Ellen Fischer, a government professor from 1974 to 1999. During her twenty-five years in the department, she studied Romanian nationalism, politics and policy, at a time when Romania stood sandwiched between two arms of the USSR. Al-

though autonomous since the 1950s, Romania was a member of the Warsaw Pact, and remained communist until the 1989 revolution.

Think that her subject matter has nothing to do with anything we are studying in our government courses these days? Take a look at Professor Graney's course "Russia and the Soviet Successor States" next semester, and you'll see that assumption to be false.



"The return of the Cold War—am I the only one who feels like I'm putting on a comfortable pair of old shoes?"
THE NEW YORKER, SEPTEMBER 1, 2008

My high school world history professor once talked about all of her friends in grad school for political science who spent four years or more studying the Soviet Union and the Cold War. All of them thought they were out of a career when the Cold War ended, and questioned the wisdom of their course of study. It is these people who are now being sought out for their expertise as the U.S. once again finds itself at odds with Russia in Eastern Europe.

And it's not just that Russia's back in the news. Topics like elections and the way we vote come in and out of relevance over the course of time. Crises bring new importance to old issues. What we study now might not be immediately useful, but we never know when it will be. The history of the department shows us that what we study is important both for now, and for the future.

LIVING THE LIBERAL ARTS

Life During and After Majoring in Government
Alumni, students, and faculty explore careers in Government:

Tuesday, November 11, 2008
6 pm - 7:30 pm
Faculty Staff Club

The Living the Liberal Arts program explores the links between liberal learning during college years and post-graduate professional opportunities, advanced education, and career development. This program is for both students are considering a major in one of these disciplines or students looking to make the most out of their current major.

Refreshments will be served

Alumni panelists include:

Adam Brand '97
Chief of Staff

U.S. House of Representatives

Kate Imbach '03

Director of Marketing
Skyhook Wireless

Rachel Silberman '03

Policy Analyst

Maryland Department of Legislative Services

Greg Thall '02

Assistant General Counsel Commonwealth of PA
Commonwealth of PA

David Thayer '04

Project Specialist, CLF Ventures
Director, Environmental Insurance Agency

Constitution Day Series 2008

Forgotten Founders

LAURIE GRAHAM '09

On Wednesday, September 17th, just weeks after the conclusion of both the Democratic and Republican National Conventions, the Government Department welcomed David Nichols, a professor of political science at Baylor University, to campus to speak of a different sort of convention—one, of all things, intended to “encourage thoughtful deliberation.”

That convention, of course, was the Constitutional Convention of 1787, and Professor Nichols’ talk, entitled “Forgotten Founders at the Constitutional Convention,” was part of the department’s annual Constitution Day Lecture Series, which, under the direction of our own Professor Flag Taylor, is now in its third year.

To hear the words “we hold these truths to be self-evident...” is to immediately call to mind the man, Thomas Jefferson, from whose pen they flowed, and yet the utterance of “we the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect Union...” frequently, even amongst an educated audience, fails to bring forth a similar reaction. To be sure, many students of American political thought are familiar with the most famous of the Founders, like James Madison, but even so, how many of us, asked Nichols, know that Madison—who stood 5’2” and weighed in at just over 100 lbs.—studied the Polish constitution and was defeated in 49 of his 70 votes cast during the Convention?

And there were other men, argued Nichols, who were responsible to a similar, if not an even greater, extent than Madison for the drafting of the Constitution, and historically many of those men have been ignored. To take only the most colorful of Nichols’ examples, Gouverneur Morris, of New York, chaired the Committee of Style and Arrangement which produced the final draft of the Constitution in early September of 1787. It is Morris, then, in Nichols’ estimation, who ought rightfully to be considered to have been the father of the Constitution. Morris, too, who spoke on 170 different occasions during the Convention, delivered one of the summer’s longest and most empathic speeches against slavery, and yet, said Nichols, there are no memorials of Morris, who also designed the New York City street system, to be found—not even a street sign bearing his name.

Thou Shall Not Post the Ten Commandments?

LAURA SWARTZ '10

In the second of the Constitution Day Speakers Series lectures, Professor Phillip Muñoz of Tufts University offered some insight to Skidmore students and faculty on the two most recent Supreme Court cases on religion. The cases, as Professor Muñoz explained, both had to do with posting the Ten Commandments on government property. One instance in Kentucky was deemed unconstitutional by the highest court; the other the Court deemed constitutional. The decisions for both were handed down on the same day in 2005, with Justice Stephen Breyer joining the majority in each case.

As Professor Muñoz discussed, there were several differences between the cases which allowed for distinct holdings in similar cases. The first case from Kentucky, *McCreary County v. ACLU*, involved a federal judge posting an “evolving” Ten Commandments display. In the first display, the Ten Commandments were simply posted in a busy hallway of the federal courthouses in two Kentucky counties; the second and third displays attempted to imply that the Ten Commandments were a key influence for the American Founding and the Constitution, to create an “educational” purpose for posting them.

The majority opinion in *McCreary*, read by Justice David Souter, determined that the posting had no secular purpose, only a religious one, making it unconstitutional. The minority opinion, written by Justice Antonin Scalia, argued that the display did not excessively promote religion, and that promoting religion over irreligion is sanctioned in the Constitution. The vote went 5-4 against the display, and required that it be removed.

The second case, *Van Orden v. Perry*, was over a monument on the grounds of the Texas state capitol. The monument, donated by the Fraternal Order of Eagles in 1961, is six feet high and is inscribed with the Ten Commandments, two Stars of David, and a message at the base dedicated to the youth and people of Texas. The monument stood with almost 40 others on 22 acres.

In this case, the majority of the Court decided that the “determinative factor here... is that 40 years passed in which the monument’s presence, legally speaking, went unchallenged. And the public visiting the capitol grounds is more likely to have considered the religious aspect of the tablets’ message as part of what is a broader moral and historical message.”

Justice Breyer, the swing vote between these two

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Award Competition: These internship awards honor the memory of Erwin L. Levine, who was a Skidmore Government Department Professor of American Politics and Law from 1961 until his retirement in 1988. Through the generosity of his family and friends, these awards celebrate the life and legacy of a beloved teacher, respected scholar, treasured colleague, and inspired student of the history, theory and practice of American politics and law.

The Levine Internship Awards are offered on a competitive basis to support Skidmore students who wish to undertake Government Department internships in fields related to the practice of American government, politics and/or law. Skidmore students from any major or minor may apply. Students are not required to apply for academic credit, but proposals must demonstrate the academic aspects of the internship experiences. Students may propose an internship in government, political, or legal offices and must demonstrate appropriate academic preparation. Examples of internship sites include: city, state, or federal government office, federal agencies (e.g., State Department) or international agencies addressing U.S. political and legal issues (e.g., the United Nations), a pressure group lobbying Congress, or a Presidential library with an emphasis on the president's politics.

Fall semester and Spring semester: \$1,000 cash stipends

Summer grant: \$3,000 cash stipends

Deadlines: December 10, 2008 for Spring 2009 and April 29, 2009 for Summer 2009

Under no circumstances will late proposals be accepted.

Applications available online at The Dean of Studies and The Government Department websites:

http://cms.skidmore.edu/dean_of_studies/

<http://cms.skidmore.edu/government/index.cfm>

Alumni News

DON'T DISMISS THE CLICHÉ

REBECCA HORTON '08

I am currently studying at the UN Mandated University for Peace in El Rodeo, Costa Rica, working towards a masters in international peace studies. So far it has been an amazing experience both in and outside the classroom. There are only 150 students in the entire university, and every day I attend class with 25 other students from countries all over the world. I have classmates from Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Indonesia, Thailand, Italy, Darfur, Somalia, Ethiopia, Nigeria, Mongolia, Croatia, and India, to name a few. The student body greatly influences the class discussions and forces me to think in a much more global way than I ever have in the past. I am grateful for the professors that I have had thus far. Each are experts in their field, with dif-

ferent views on teaching, as well as the material that they have traveled to Costa Rica to teach. I find it incredible that I am constantly learning, and the majority of it happens outside of the classroom. The experiences and views of my classmates have opened my mind and challenged me much more than I expected coming into the program.

I was not originally planning to go straight to graduate school after I graduated in May, but when I found this program, it fit so perfectly with what I want to do in the future that I knew I had to apply. My advice to students is to follow your heart. It might sound cliché, but it is the only way to find yourself doing something that you are truly happy doing. Don't look for a job just for the sake of getting a job, find something you are passionate about and figure out how to pursue

studies or work related to that passion. It is the most rewarding feeling to know that you are developing skills or working for something that you have studied or believed in for a long time.

One of the ways in which my experience as a Government major helped me prepare me for where I am now, was through the support and expectations of my professors. I am prepared to be working at a graduate level thanks to the amount of work and practice writing papers I was able to gain as a student in the government department. The quality expected by my professors and the way in which they pushed me to do the best job I could has helped me feel confident in my ability to write a graduate level paper. Take advantage of the professors in the department, because you won't

Continued on page 10...

T³: THESE TIMES OF TRANSITION

GEANNAN CAMPONESCHI '07

The economy shed jobs for the ninth straight month with job losses reaching three-quarters of a million in September. Current employment conditions do not bode well for recent college graduates who are facing stiff competition from other graduates and young professionals whose companies have either downsized or gone bankrupt. As if these conditions were not stressful enough, graduates must now transition from 16-odd years of education to becoming full-time professionals.

Searching for employment opportunities was much more tedious and time-consuming than I was expecting. I looked at various positions within a variety of industries and at very different companies. I wasn't sure what type of company I wanted to work for, so I interviewed at both small companies, with only one or a handful of offices, as well as multi-national corporations. Double majoring at Skidmore in Government and Economics, I also wanted to explore sectors that had peaked my interest in college including politics, economics

and law.

Over six-months I went on many, many interviews before accepting an offer from my current employer. It wasn't the first offer that I received, mind you, but it wasn't the tenth either. I was lucky enough to secure employment just as labor market conditions across the country began to deteriorate. I was hired as a Research Associate at a small economic and business cycle research firm in Manhattan. It has been incredibly interesting that I was hired at a forecasting firm in such tumultuous economic times. I have learned a great deal about business cycle indicators and forecasting growth and inflation cycles, all of which are getting a great deal of attention given the weakness of the economy.

I will be honest, the transition from student to professional came as a shock. While I had held a number of internships during my college career, none prepared me for the rigor and intensity of holding a full-time, quantitative research position. It wasn't the getting up early or staying late or not having a lunch break that surprised

me—any young professional needs to expect these conditions. The real surprises were one, the importance of every task and two, the constant scrutiny of my work. Each and every task that I complete has to be done with absolute accuracy. My initial experiences were unlike anything I had encountered in college or elsewhere, as I have the responsibility of providing precise research and data that clients depend upon to make business decisions.

In an economy like this, with labor market conditions as they are, graduates must do certain things to maximize their chances at landing positions with companies of their choice. This includes participating in internships in one's field of study or interest, exhausting all possible resources in a job search including alumni, family, family friends, and previous employers, and adequately preparing and executing interviews. A well-written resume and cover letter are key to getting an interview so working with a career counselor can help. When the economy is as bad as it is, graduates need to work even harder to secure employment after graduation. Prepare well and good luck!

Spring 2009 Topics Descriptions

Government Department

GO 351A Xenophon's *Anabasis*

Professor Tim Burns

TU/TH 3:40 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

A close reading of the *Anabasis*, the classic account of political leadership written by Socrates' student, Xenophon, which recounts the retreat of the army of 10,000 Greeks. Cyrus the Younger has enlisted the Greeks in an attempt to wrest the Persian empire from his brother Xerxes. Cyrus dies in the initial battle at Cunaxa, however, and the Greek generals are betrayed and murdered. Xenophon himself is then chosen to lead the 10,000 out of Babylon. They march through the hostile territories of Assyria and Armenia, to the Black Sea and thence to Thrace and Greece (i.e., from contemporary Baghdad through Kurdish northern Iraq and Turkey, to the Black Sea and thence to Bulgaria and Greece). The *Anabasis* has been read and admired by statesmen, military leaders, and thinkers from Alexander the Great and Cicero to Machiavelli, Montaigne, Rousseau, Shaftesbury, Benjamin Franklin, and George Patton. It is also the basis of numerous films and novels—three of them published in 2008 alone. We will be using the new literal edition of the *Anabasis* translated by Wayne Ambler (Ithaca: Cornell U. Press, 2008).

GO 367 Immigration Politics and Policy

Professor Bob Turner

TU/TH 9:40 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

America is in the midst of an immigration boom that rivals that of the early 1900s. The 35 million immigrants currently living in America is more than twice the levels of the peak of the last great immigration wave in 1910. Immigration is one of the most important forces in American society today—reshaping cities, suburbs, and rural areas, altering racial dynamics, influencing families, education, culture, labor markets, and politics. This class will examine these issues from an interdisciplinary perspective incorporating readings from economics, sociology, demography, and political science as well as the depiction of immigration in popular culture.

Some of the topics we will address are: push and pull theories of immigration, demographic trends, the historical evolution of American immigration policy, the economic costs and benefits of immigration, the assimilation of recent immigration, state responses to immigration, and the role of economic and family criteria in US immigration policy.

GO 366 Understanding Globalization

Professor Aldo Vacs

W/F 12:20 p.m. – 1:40 p.m.

A critical examination of globalization as a political, economic, technological, social, and cultural phenomenon, which has wrought fundamental changes to our lives by making the world smaller and more interdependent. The course will explore the meaning, features and impact of globalization on the role of states, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, and transnational corporations; the transformation of national sovereignty; the expansion of liberal democracy; the changes in international economic relations (trade, finance, investment) and institutions (GATT/WTO, IMF, World Bank); the promotion of social progress and backwardness; the rise and decline of nationalistic, ethnic, and religious confrontations; and the development of cultural diversity and homogeneity. Special attention will be devoted to analyzing the ideologies, actors, and interests promoting and opposing globalization as well as the risks and opportunities associated with globalization from the perspective of different groups.

Law & Society

LW 251 Law, Technology & Society: Information Privacy: No Place to Hide in a Surveillance Society

Instructor: Scott Mulligan

TU/TH 3:40 – 5:00pm

New technologies increasingly raise privacy and other legal concerns in areas as diverse as identity theft, health care and workplace surveillance. In addition, the post-9/11 focus on national security and fighting terrorism has raised new concerns about governmental intrusions on personal privacy.

This course provides an in-depth look into privacy, information law, and related technologies, as well as self-regulatory efforts in the United States and international contexts. This course will use philosophical, historical, legal, policy and technical perspectives to explore a variety of issues concerning information privacy (i.e., the gathering, use and protection of personal information) as well as subjects related to the influence, impact and interrelationship between technology, the law and modern society. In this discussion-based seminar, students will develop advocacy skills in classroom debate, while individual in-class presentations and final research papers will allow students to explore related topics in greater depth.

*You are invited to attend a seminar
presented by*

Mr. David Demarest

to Professor Seyb's

GO 334: The United States Presidency class

November 17th, 2008

11:15 am – 12:10 pm

Bolton 281

Biography of Mr. David Demarest

Former White House Communications Director

Current Vice President for Public Affairs, Stanford University

Mr. David Demarest has enjoyed a distinguished career in politics and government. Most notably, he served four years as an assistant to President George H. W. Bush and member of the White House senior staff. As White House Communications Director, he worked directly with the President, the White House Chief of Staff, and the Cabinet, and in that capacity managed a broad range of White House communications activities, including presidential speechwriting, public liaison, media relations, and intergovernmental affairs. His office was the primary White House point of contact for virtually all private sector organizations and constituent groups, as well as governors, mayors, and local officials.

Prior to arriving at the White House, Mr. Demarest spent much of the 1980s in senior positions in the Executive Office of the President and in the executive branch. He first served in the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative as Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for Public, Intergovernmental, and Private Sector Affairs. Mr. Demarest eventually moved to the Department of Labor, where he took the post of Assistant Secretary of Labor for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs. He then left the Department of Labor to serve as Communications Director for Vice President George H. W. Bush's successful 1988 presidential campaign. Following a brief stint serving as director of public affairs in President-elect Bush's transition office, Mr. Demarest was appointed by President Bush to serve as White House Communications Director.

Constitution Day, Laura Swartz

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cases, argued that the Texas display was constitutional because it was donated by a private civic organization, with an ethical, rather than religious, message; because its position along with many others of historical or moral importance did not lend itself to a religious message or purpose; and because moving it after 40 years would be more divisive in the community and country than leaving it in place. This last piece of the decision-making puzzle essentially establishes a grandfather policy, where existing Ten Commandments monuments may stand, but new ones may not be erected. Taking existing, previously unchallenged monuments down would divide the community more than leaving them in place, Breyer argued in his concurring opinion.

After discussing both cases, Professor Muñoz discussed several reasons why, even after these two decisions, the future of Ten Commandments court cases is still uncertain. The first, obviously, is the disparate opinions of those sitting on the court, and their interpretations of the Establishment clause of the First Amendment. While justices like Souter are opposed to any degree of mixture of religion and state, citing the "wall of separation," justices like Scalia argue that religion may be promoted over irreligion. Since these two decisions were handed down in June 2005, two new justices have been sworn in, Justice Alito and Chief Justice Roberts, whose opinions on these cases are not known.

Cliché, Rebecca Horton

...continued from page 8

always have the opportunity to have someone constructively help you become better at what you want to do. Having professors like Burns, Hoffman, Vacs, Ferraioli, and Turner who helped me become a better writer and helped me develop my ability to analyze critically what I was writing about has become extremely important in the studies I am pursuing at the moment.

At the same time, I urge you not to limit yourself. While I loved the government department, don't get me wrong, I believe that I limited myself by not taking many classes in other departments. Here at the University for Peace I am recognizing the interconnectedness of all fields of study, and wish that I had taken some courses in other departments so I was able to make the connections between the work I am doing and my goals as a peacemaker, and how it relates to economics or environment or education.

If anyone is interested in learning more about the University for Peace, please feel free to contact me at rhorton@student.upeace.org

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT PHOTO GALLERY



THE CHEERFUL FACES OF OUR SPRING 2008 GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT STUDENT ASSISTANTS: SIMONE PEREZ '10, JILLIAN ZATTA '10, LAURA SWARTZ '10, LIZA MILLS '08, LEILA STERMAN '08, ELI TURKEL '08, NADINE DODGE '10 AND JASON TAKAHASHI '09 MISSING WAS ARTEMAS RICHARDSON '08.



CONSTITUTION DAY 2008
David Nichols, September 17th



CONSTITUTION DAY 2008
Philip Munoz, October 2nd



ALAN CAFRUNY WILL DELIVER A LECTURE ON
NOVEMBER 6TH IN LADD 307



REBECCA HORTON '08 ATTENDS THE UN MANDATED
UNIVERSITY FOR PEACE IN EL RODEO, COSTA RICA



MAY 2008 SENIOR GOVERNMENT MAJORS PARTY

SPRING 2009

Breslin, Beau Director FYE

Classes:	ID-151	Freedom in Film	TU	1:00PM - 2:00PM	LIBRARY 213
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Burns, Tim - x5247, Ladd 316

Classes:	GO-304H	Honors: Modern Political Thought	TU/TH	9:10AM-11:00AM	LADD 106
	GO-351A	Xenophon's <i>Anabasis</i>	TU/TH	3:40 PM - 5:00PM	LI 213

Ginsberg, Roy - X5245, Ladd 314

Classes:	GO-103	Intro to Comp and International Politics	M/W/F	11:15AM-12:10PM	LADD 307
	GO-229	International Law	M/W/F	10:10AM-11:05AM	LADD 307
	IA-375	IA Senior Seminar	W	9:05AM - 10:00AM	Ladd 207

Graney, Kate - X5242, Ladd 309

Classes:	GO-241	Ethnic Conflict and the Global System	M/W/F	12:20PM-1:15PM	LADD 206
	GO-327	Politics in Russia and the Soviet Successor States	W/F	10:10AM-11:30AM	LADD 207

Hoffmann, Steven - on Sabbatical Spring 2009

Seyb, Ron - x5248, Ladd 310

Classes:	GO-101	Introduction to American Government	TU/TH	3:40PM-5:00PM	LADD 307
	GO-362	Politics of Congress	TU/TH	2:10PM-3:30PM	LADD 206

Taylor, Flagg - x5244, Ladd 306A

Classes:	GO-102	Introduction to Political Philosophy	W/F	10:10AM-11:30AM	TISCH 301 LIBRARY 442
	GO-323	Dissident Politics	M/W	2:30PM-3:50PM	

Taylor, Natalie x5243, Ladd 306B.

Classes:	GO-101	Introduction to American Government	TU/TH	2:10PM-3:30PM	BOLTON 103
	GO-332	American Party System	TU/TH	9:10AM-11:00AM	TISCH 308

Turner, Bob - x5251, Ladd 315

Classes:	GO-231	Enviromental Politics and Policy	TU/TH	12:40PM-2:00PM	TISCH 202
	GO-367	Immigration Politics and Policy	TU/TH	9:40AM-11:00AM	LADD 207

Vacs, Aldo - x5249, Ladd 319,

Classes:	GO-209	The Latin American Puzzle	M/W/F	11:15AM-12:10PM	LADD 106
	GO-228	US Foreign Policy	M/W/F	9:05AM-10:00AM	LADD 206
	GO-366	Understanding Globalization	W/F	12:20PM-1:40PM	LADD 207

LaVenja, Peter

Classes:	GO-103	Intro to Comp and International Politics	M/W/F	1:25PM-2:20PM	TANG Somrs
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Pat Ferraioli, x5237, Ladd 308

Classes:	GO-101	Introduction to American Government	TU/TH	8:10AM-9:30AM	LADD 307
	GO-314	Civil Liberties	TU/TH	12:40PM-2:00PM	LADD 106
	WS-201	Feminist Theory and Method	TU/TH	11:10AM-12:30PM	LADD 207

Mulligan, Scott x5253, Palamountain 220W

LW- 251	Law, Technology and Society	TU/TH	3:40PM - 5:00PM	TLC 203
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