



# POLITICAL SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

Fall 2010

## Department WELCOMES 47 Freshman and 33 Transfer students.

The Department welcomes new and returning students. We want students to get involved BEYOND the classroom by attending department-sponsored events (*PS Forum, Workshops, social gatherings, etc*), participating in the many student organizations (*Moot Court, Mock Trial, Model UN*), doing an internship with a local organization or political campaign, studying abroad, and staying in touch and informed.

Beginning this fall, the Department has a new set of requirements for the major in both Political Science and International Relations (see p. 4), and launches a new minor in Political and Civic Engagement (see page 3).

Special Welcoming **PICNIC** for new majors Sept 16, 4:30, Walnut Grove

**MIDDLE TENNESSEE**  
STATE UNIVERSITY

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### FRESHMAN

Tricia Adams  
Damesha Alexander  
Dominick Amari  
Amos Bailey  
Justin Bardago  
Zachary Barker  
William Brooks  
Immanuel Chioco  
Steven Coffey  
Katherine Connors  
Carson Cook  
Katie Cooper  
Darrius Dixon  
Teona England  
Anthony Fresso

Rikita Gavin  
Philena Haynes  
Jessica Seitz  
Thomas Henderson Hawn  
Cedric Hunt  
John Jacobs  
Anna Johnson  
Whitley Landingham  
Kaila Lipford  
Jacob Lunn  
Kelly Mayo  
Elizabeth Mcaskill  
Pierre Merritt  
Joseph Meyer  
Shatera Nelson  
Stephan Oskian  
Tyler Parrow

Larry Peters  
Sona Potosyan  
Mckenzie Price  
Jarrett Rausch  
Nathan Rivers  
Mariah Schiff  
Leyla Scott  
Alexa Sengupta  
Michael Sharber  
Amanda Skinner  
Joseph Small  
Joseph Stephens  
Blake Taylor  
Alyssa-Faith Tuttle  
Bettina Zengotita

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Dept Publishes new  
**HANDBOOK for MAJORS**  
Information useful for majors

*Pick one up in the dept office*

### TRANSFERS

Jesse Barnes  
Thomas Bates  
Landon Brisco  
Kendra Campbell  
Holland Collins  
Jordan Crouch  
Jason Davis  
Mandy Davis  
Katie Gibson

Constance Grieves  
Kimberly Holland  
Brittany Holland  
Marianne Hoover  
Steven Hunter  
Eric Jones  
Bryan Jones  
Davis Lane  
Ashlee Lovitt  
Anthony Martin  
Stills  
Diane Mervyn  
Tamra Mezera

Benson Myrtil  
Benjamin Nelson  
Brittney Pone  
Catherine Poole  
Hannah Ramey  
Jasmine Rutledge  
Zachary Smith  
Galadriel Spanogians  
Andrew Vance  
Christena Wade  
Adam Weaver  
Roy Wiles

**Incoming freshman** should check out the series by Brian Harke, "High School to College Transition."

> Part 1: "The Freshman Myth"  
<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/brian-harke/high-school-to-college-tr b 620043.html>

> Part 2: "Academic Expectations"  
<http://www.huffingtonpost.com/brian-harke/high-school-to-college-tr b 628726....html>

(Links on our Facebook page)

## Special *Upcoming* Events

### New Student Picnic

**September 16, 4:30**  
Walnut Grove

For new majors (freshman and transfer students)  
(food, trivia, and wiffle ball?)



PS Forum

### Internship Forum

Come learn about internship opportunities in the Department. Talk to students who have recently done internships in Washington, DC, the state legislature, in political campaigns, and in local organizations



**Wednesday, September 29, 4:00 pm**  
**BAS S334**

### "CUBA AT A CROSSROADS"

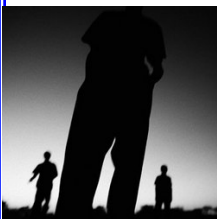


a lecture and discussion with Cuban scholar Rodrigo Gonzalez  
**Sep 27, 2010, 3-5 p.m.**  
Tom Jackson building auditorium

PS Forum

### VIDEO: *The RECKONING*

Late in the 20th century, in response to repeated mass atrocities around the world, more than 120 countries united to form the International Criminal Court (ICC) the first permanent court created to prosecute perpetrators (no matter how powerful) of crimes against humanity, war crimes, and genocide. The Reckoning follows dynamic ICC Prosecutor Luis Moreno Ocampo and his team for 3 years across 4 continents as he issues arrest warrants for Lords Resistance Army leaders in Uganda, puts Congolese warlords on trial, shakes up the Colombian justice system, and charges Sudans President Omar al-Bashir with genocide in Darfur, challenging the UN Security Council to arrest him. Building cases against genocidal criminals presents huge challenges, and the Prosecutor has a mandate but no police force. At every turn, he must pressure the international community to muster political will for the cause. Like a deft thriller, *The Reckoning* keeps you on the edge of your seat, in this case with two riveting dramas the prosecution of unspeakable crimes and the ICCs fight for efficacy in its nascent years. As this tiny court in The Hague struggles to change the world and forge a new paradigm for justice, innocent victims suffer and wait. Will the Prosecutor succeed? Will the world ensure that justice prevails?



**October 21, 4:30**  
(Tentative)

PS Forum

### What is Law School really like?



Informal forum featuring recent PS graduates currently in law school or recently finishing a law degree. Find out whether this is really what you want to do.

**Date/Time: TBA**

**NINA TOTENBERG** will speak on "**Establishing Justice: The New Supreme Court**" at 4:30 on Wednesday, September 22, in Tucker Theater, as part of the university's Constitution Week activities

### Honors Lecture Series

#### China: The Middle Kingdom in the Modern World

All Lectures are free and open to the public  
Honors College Amphitheatre, Room 106  
Mondays, 3:00 – 3:55

- September 13, "Women's Secret Script in Small Villages of Southern China," Guanping Zheng, Director of the Confucius Institute and Associate Professor of Electronic Media
- September 20, "New Confucian Political Theory, Ronnie Littlejohn," Chair of Philosophy and Director of Asian Studies, Belmont University
- September 27, "Confucianism and the Scientific Tradition in China," Yuan-Ling Chao, Associate Professor of History
- October 4, "Distortions and Stereotypes: Media Representations of the U.S. and China," Robert Spires, Professor Electronic Media
- October 11, "MTSU and China: Our Past, Present, and Potential," Diane Miller, Professor of Mathematical Sciences
- October 25, "Predicting China's Foreign Policy," Michael Roskin, former Chair of Political Science, Lycoming College
- November 1, "Language Policy and Language Use in China," Jun Da, Associate Professor of Foreign Languages
- November 8, "The Effect of China's Ascendancy on U.S. Foreign Policy," Steve Saunders, Interim Director of the McNair Program, Adjunct, Dept of Political Science

## News from the department

### Department Launches New Minor in POLITICAL AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

**Open** to students from all majors, this eighteen credit minor will provide students an active experiential program focused on effective and sustained community engagement.



The new minor is the latest step in MTSU's deepening commitment to civic engagement and community partnerships. MTSU has a very successful experiential education program led by Dr. Jill Austin, a vibrant American Democracy Project under the leadership of Dr. Mary Evins, and is active in the eCitizenship Initiative. The new minor takes us a step further in promoting civic engagement on campus. It provides a mechanism to guide student's opportunities for civic engagement, as well as link classroom learning with community experience.

Students choosing the new minor will complete a new classroom course on "**Democratic Participation and Civic Advocacy**" to lay a solid foundation for meaningful civic engagement. The course will be offered for the first time this spring by Dr. Sekou Franklin, who has years of research, teaching, and practical hands-on experience working with community groups. The course will focus on theories of democratic participation, the role and importance of participation in a democracy, and practical organizational skills for issue advocacy.

The great majority of the new minor, however, will be experiential. Students will design a program that mixes experiences in four areas:

-1- **A Community-Based Research Practicum**, in which students will plan and carry out an applied research program in partnership with local civic, non-profit, and public organizations.

-2- **Internships**, working in the Tennessee General Assembly, in Washington, and in a wide range of political campaigns, public agencies, and non-profits.

-3- **Study Abroad**, with an emphasis on community and service learning, rather than just college coursework in another country.

-4- **Skills and Simulation Courses**, including Moot Court, Mediation Procedures, Mock Trial, Model U.N., and the Tennessee Inter-Collegiate State Legislature.

The minor will compliment classroom learning in many fields, and will make graduates more appealing to employers, law schools, and graduate schools. Most importantly, we hope it will lay the basis for a life-long commitment to deep and meaningful citizenship.

- Enhances experiential learning
- Develops practical knowledge and skills
- Equips students with planning, managerial, analytical and communication skills needed to work with community organizations and effectively address community problems
- Improves knowledge of the link between theory and practice

# News from the department

## New Requirements Kick-in For New Students

The curriculum changes approved last year take effect for all new, incoming students. Returning students may still use prior program requirements.

### Key Program Changes

- PS and IR now require 36 credit hours
- Requirements for PS Majors (general focus)
  - PS 1010, 2010, 3001 (Research Methods), and 4800 (Senior Seminar)
  - 1 course from each of the following areas:
    - American Politics: PS 3050, 3060, 3250, 3330, 3370
    - Comparative/ International Relations: PS 3210, 3220
    - Political Theory: PS 4230, 4700, 4920, 4930
  - 15 hours of elective courses
- IR Majors now required to take PS 3001 (Research Methods)

Visit the web site, including the new Upper Division Forms for details of the new program requirements.

*And consult your advisor*

## Classes Taught (2009-10): 121

### Student Credit Hours:

Semester	LD	UD	Grad.	Total
Fall 09:	2,398	2,469	3	4,870
Spring 10:	3,216	1,398	-	4,614

**Capacity** (actual enrollment / maximum enrollment owing to class size)

Fall 2009 courses operated at 83% capacity. General Education courses (PS 1010 and 2010) functioned at 90% capacity with 17 of the 24 sections beyond 90% occupancy. Other PS courses ran at 79% of capacity with 18 of the 40 classes beyond the 90% mark.

Spring 2010 enrollment came in at 85% of maximum capacity. General Education courses operated at 97% capacity with 14 of the 15 sections over 90% full. All other PS courses ended at 80% enrollment with 17 of the 38 classes over 90% full.

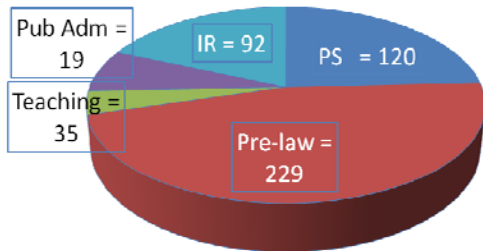
## Student Evaluals.

In the fall 2009 semester, students ranked the Political Science faculty above the university average in all categories and above the college average in such areas as “intellectual and scholarly approach,” and “effectiveness and worth.”

## By the numbers...

**MAJORS = 495 (Fall 2010)**

Majors



## MINORS

117 PS  
29 IR  
22 Paralegal

## Field test and data

For the first time in years, both IR and PS majors scored below the 500 performance threshold on the Major Field Test. The Department is concerned about this outcome and is seeking ways to improve our performance. The recent curriculum changes were made in large part to address the trend.

Seriously? Are students taking the test..eh.. seriously?



AREA		SCORE
American Government		511
Comparative / International Rel.		475
Public Administration		437
Methodology/ Political Theory		423
OVERALL SCORE	PS Majors	459
	IR Majors	499

## Students

### 2010 Political Science Student Awards

- Norman L. Parks Award -- **Brett Kennedy** (Fall 09 Graduate)
- C. C. Sims Award – **Nick Armes** (Summer 09 Graduate)
- John W. Burgess Award – **Adam Bennot** (Fall 09 Graduate)
- Jack Justin Turner Award (International Relations) – **Kaitlyn Jones** (Spring 10 Graduate)

#### Meritorious Service Awards:

**Patrick Pratt** (Society of International Affairs)  
**Austin Purvis** (Mock Trial)  
**Daniel Vaughan** (Mock Trial)  
**Jesse Lords** (Moot Court)



#### Department Awards 2010

Adam Bennot, Brett Kennedy, Jesse Lords, Kaitlyn Jones, Austin Purvis, Daniel Vaughan, Nick Armes (not shown - Patrick Pratt)

## Scholarships 2010

**Megan McClarty** (Jo Ann Arnold Memorial Scholarship). Ms McClarty is from Smyrna, and graduated from Motlow State Community College with an associate degree in criminal justice and a 4.0 GPA. She is starting MTSU this fall with a pre-law concentration.

**Anthony J. Fresso** (Norman Parks Pre-Law Scholarship). A graduate of Blackman High School, Mr. Fresso begins MTSU this fall and plans on double majoring in criminal justice and pre-law. He hopes to attend law school and pursue a career as a defense attorney.

**Courtnei Secrest** (Jim Free Scholarship). Ms Secrest is a graduate of Columbia Central High School and resides in Maury Co. Currently a junior with a major in pre-law, Ms Secrest received the Park Scholarship during her freshman year. She has served as the sophomore senator of the College of Liberal Arts, is a member of NAACP, the environmental committee, and the Gamma Beta Phi honor society. She is interested in pursuing a career in law.

**Seth Chapman** (Jane Henegar Duke Memorial Scholarship). Mr. Chapman is a current Political Science student who plans on attending law school after graduating.

**Aaron Shew** (Harry Horne International Relations Scholarship). An IR/Global Studies double major, Mr. Shew has participated in the summer intensive Urdu program at the American Institute of Indian Studies in Lucknow, India, studied Arabic in Morocco, and has volunteered or interned in Thailand, East Africa, Morocco, Sri Lanka and Mexico, and published in the *Journal of the Tennessee Academy of Science*. He is also the recipient of the Critical Languages Scholarship in 2009 and 2010, and the MTSU Study Abroad Grant in 2008.

**Amanda Skinner** (Charles Ray Scholarship). From Dayton, TN, Ms Skinner attended Baylor School, participated in varsity soccer, basketball, and track. She will pursue a degree in PS with a pre-law concentration and aspires to become a defense lawyer.

# Students, continued...

## McNair Scholars Present Research

- IR major **Joshua Fryer**, “China and the International Construction of Sovereignty” (tied for first prize for poster) – Mentor: Dr. Petersen – explores through content analysis the construction of the concept of sovereignty and China’s role in influencing the international definition. Joshua begins a Master’s degree in international relations at Georgia State University this fall.
- IR/Global Studies major **Shaun Guffey**, “North Africa: The Radical Challenge” – Mentor: Dr. Petersen – examines why some countries in the region tend to be more vulnerable to radicalism than others. Guffey finds that the likelihood of radicalism hinges on type of government, degree of control over law and order, and the involvement of the international community.
- PS major **Eric Pegues**, “Black and Latino Interest Group Mobilization in Middle Tennessee during the 2008 Presidential Election Cycle” – Mentor: Dr. Franklin – study investigates the role interest groups played in electorally mobilizing Blacks/Latinos in the 2008 election in middle Tennessee.

The Ronald E. McNair program is a federal program designed to prepare underrepresented groups in graduate education for doctoral level study. For more information visit <http://frank.mtsu.edu/~mcnair>

International Relations majors **Alexander Smith** and **Anna Kelma** were selected to attend the International Student Symposium in Berlin, Germany in May 2010.

\* \* \*

**Yasser Arafat**, junior political science major, spoke at the Middle East Lecture Series titled “Islam and the West” on Tuesday April 6.

\* \* \*

**Thomas Moss**, a junior political science major, ran for the City Council, focusing on such issues as problems with drinking water, pollution of rivers, the ever-expanding landfill, lack of comprehensive tornado warning system, excessive growth, the need for recycling, among others.

## SPRING AND SUMMER 2010 GRADUATES

### International Relations

Mary Bozeman  
Gatrek Chuang  
Joshua Fryer  
Gabriel Fuenmayor  
Nader Hobballah  
Umid Ibrahim  
Kaitlyn Jones  
Mary Poe  
Patrick Pratt  
Jesse Rawls  
Christopher Smith  
Marlon Umeadi  
Brenda Wells

\* \* \* \* \*

### POLITICAL SCIENCE

Samuel Bennett  
Christopher Bonham  
Dustin Brandon  
Taqesha Brandon  
Kristin Brown  
Sarah Calk  
Wesley Clark  
Lauren Day

Samuel Duncan  
Joshua Fitzpatrick  
William Forgety  
William Gang  
David Goodwin  
Amber Hazel  
Miso Hrgota  
Mallory Iles  
Lauren Jeffcoat  
Melanie Jones  
Roger Layne  
Joseph Liptrap  
William Lockhart  
Jesse Lords  
Neil Lund  
Shelley Maddox  
Robert Markland  
Kelly Martin  
Tyler Martin  
Jenna Miller  
Kathryn Miller  
James Mitchell  
Isabel Noel  
Courtney Ogunpola  
Patrick Pratt  
Christopher Pryor  
Austin Purvis

Christopher Richardson  
Amy Richter  
William Ridley  
Alice Robinson  
Christopher Robison  
Jennifer Roddick  
Robert Roysden  
Lisa Shores  
Adam Sones  
Antoinette Stout  
Jacob Strait  
Vincent Taite  
Heather Thoe  
Daniel Vaughan  
Marquesa Videau  
Matthew Waddell  
Brett Whaley  
Deidre Wood



## Set to Graduate this fall!

- **Political Science**
- Amanda Alexander
- Courtney Chapman
- Herjin Emin
- Nathan Frost
- Mary Fugitt
- Robyn Gutschke
- Melissa Huber
- Louis Johnson
- Aaron Kiefer
- Priscilla Kinney
- Anna Lanier
- Basra Mohamed
- Jonathan Philpot
- Jordan Quintana
- Elham Rabiei
- Janice Shelton
- Kenneth Smith
- Jessica Sprague
- Megan Tyson
- James Workman



- **International Relations**
- Mohamed Abdi
- Bobby Bush
- Jason Courtoy
- Ryan DeBooy
- Ater Manyiel
- Sean Patterson
- Serfiel Stevenson
- Shayna Taylor
- Nathan Whitt
- Robert Worthen

## Students *continued...*

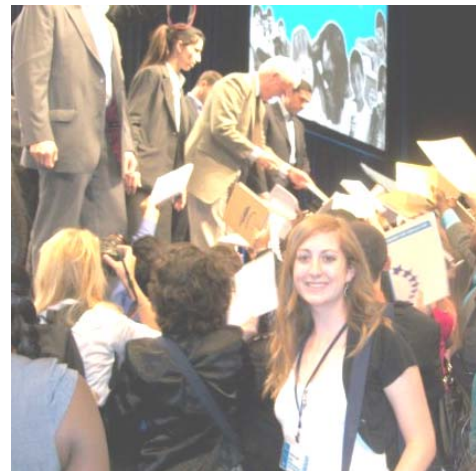
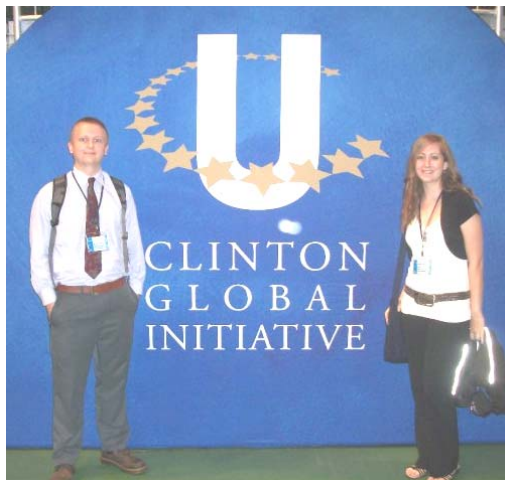
### MTSU/HICIC Students Attend Clinton's Annual Conference in Miami, FL May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Two graduating senior International Relations majors, **Mary Lane Poe** and **Jesse Rawls**, attended the Clinton Global Initiative University conference at the University of Miami in Coral Gables, FL. The Clinton Global Initiative University conference, or CGIU, is an offshoot of the Clinton Global Initiative, an organization started in 2005 by President Bill Clinton to help fund programs designed to address the world's most pressing issues. CGIU was started in 2007 and specifically engages with student groups from across the globe in efforts to address problems locally and globally.

Thirteen hundred students from all 50 states and 83 countries attended this year's meeting. Mary Lane, Jesse, and Becca Wilson, who was unable to attend, were chosen from over 4000 applicants to attend the three day conference. Students apply by submitting a "commitment" to affect change in five Global Challenge areas: education, environment & climate change, peace & human rights, poverty alleviation, and public health. The students commitment was concerning an ongoing effort by the student branch of Humans in Crisis International Corporation (HICIC) to raise funds to pay the salary for two teachers in rural Nepal. HICIC is a non-profit organization that engages students and professionals to support humanitarian efforts all over the globe.

CGIU took place on the weekend of April 16-18 and began with a panel discussion led by President Clinton. Panel members included Sam Adelburg founder of [lendforpeace.org](http://lendforpeace.org) a group that provides micro loans to entrepreneurs in Palestine, Robyn Allen, a student working in conjunction with university teams across the country to develop vehicles which operate on more than 100 miles per gallon, Regina Benjamin, U.S. Surgeon General, who stressed the importance of civil service, especially in the medical field, and the panel was rounded out by Grammy Award winning producer, songwriter, and musician Pharrel Williams, who's charitable efforts include Bionic Yard, a clothing company which utilizes recycled plastic bottles, and also the youth organization KidUlt.

CGIU gave students the chance to network with other students and groups through Working Sessions held Saturday afternoon. Jesse and Mary Lane attended two working sessions which were focused on "World Education" topics such as using old and new media technology in education and education for the most disadvantaged youth. Other panel discussions were held on topics including environmental awareness, the scarcity of water, and the humanitarian efforts in Haiti.



"Attending this conference was one of the most beneficial experiences I have had in college. The speakers and panels had spot on discussions about pressing issues, and the chance to network with so many proactive individuals from all over the world was amazing! I hope that other MTSU students have the chance to attend this conference in the future and I would encourage teachers and faculty to have their students submit a commitment next year! We have applied for a Clinton Global Initiative Outstanding Commitment Award for \$7,500, approximately \$2,500 to complete our commitment for this year and an additional \$5,000 for next year's goal. We would like to express our thanks to Jason Goodrich and Dr. Hari Garbnarran of HICIC and also to Pam Davis and Dr. Stephen Morris of the Political Science Department for their support." For More Information Please Visit [hicic.org](http://hicic.org) or [cgiu.org](http://cgiu.org)

(Mary Lane Poe & Jesse Rawls)

## Students in the News, *continued...*

Report from **Aaron M. Shew**  
International Relations and  
Middle Eastern Studies

My journeys over the past few months have been intense but great for both my academic path and career goals. The course in Turkey and Cyprus was a whirlwind of history, foreign policy, and international conflict. The program provided a great balance of class time, meetings with officials dealing with the Cyprus Conflict, and time for personal exploration. Our classes were taught by Dr. Bowers from Northern Illinois University, as well as many professors from the Near East University in Northern Cyprus. I benefited greatly from the variety of professors who taught us from different academic concentrations and professions. Indeed, this brought to light the complexity of issues faced on both sides of the Green Line in Nicosia, which marks the political division of the island. Our meetings with the UN, EU, the internationally unrecognized Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, and U.S. Embassy to the Republic of Cyprus provided us the opportunity to ask questions and converse with those who have been involved in the negotiation process. Although my understanding of the Cyprus Conflict is far from that of a true scholar, it allowed me to gain insight which would have otherwise been impossible to obtain at my level of education. My travels to Istanbul brought Ottoman history to life and visiting Cyprus allowed me to see the systems at work, which to this point, I only understood from books. Alongside the academic experiences, I was able to see beautiful beaches and castles, but I'm sure nobody is interested in that...



Only two days after returning from Cyprus, I flew to Washington D.C. for the Critical Language Scholarship orientation. After a few days in D.C., about fifty of us headed to India to study our respective languages. This was an excellent opportunity, not only for me to study Urdu, but to meet other individuals with similar interests to my own. This experience was quite different from those I had in Turkey and Cyprus. I studied Urdu with about fifteen other individuals from a variety of academic interests but all focused on South Asia in some way. Our classes were very intense and concentrated on different aspects of the language. Total class time was about twenty hours per week, along with about fifteen hours of homework. The discussions with other students were incredibly challenging and beneficial. We were from different states and universities all over the country. Some students were studying religion, others foreign policy; some were Ph.D. or Masters Candidates and others, like myself, were undergraduates. Besides the great opportunity to network and challenge one another, we pursued life in Lucknow India. Sometimes this was walking down the street to buy fruit or vegetables from the local stand; other times this meant dealing with the car horns and heat. The historic sites in Lucknow (and across India) are worth seeing and learning about. Lucknow happens to be famous in part for fostering the first major revolt against the British in 1857. The people were hospitable and warm, especially when they realized we spoke Urdu and/or Hindi. Overall, my experiences in

Turkey, Cyprus, and India over the summer challenged my own assumptions about these particular places, granted me deeper insight into other cultures and political systems, and presented me with an opportunity to network with individuals from all over the world in my field of interest.

### Internships over the year

#### Summer 2009:

- Mike Aucoin – Congressman Jim Cooper in DC
- Brittany Lunceford --- District Public Defender, Cannon and Rutherford Counties
- Leslie RaCarol Woodard – Fletcher Long for Mayor, Springfield TN
- Adam Robertson – Department of Education, TN
- Charles Johnson – Metro Police Dept Domestic Violence Division
- Clara Rasmussen – Congressman Jim Cooper, local office
- Clara Rasmussen – June Anderson Women's Center
- Heather Dumont – Congressman Bart Gordon, M'boro Office
- Stephanie Jones – State of TN, Dept of Finance and Administration
- Crystal Blevins – Charleston Police Department
- Anna Bozeman – Catholic Charities of TN, Refugee Relief Services

#### Fall 2009:

- Jessica Krekeler -- District Public Defender, Cannon and Rutherford Counties
- April Odom -- District Public Defender, Cannon and Rutherford Counties
- Yasser Arafat – Islamic Center of Nashville
- Herjin Emin – US Senator Lamar Alexander, Nashville office
- Summer Dale – World Relief
- Kaye Jernigan – County of Rutherford, Highway Dept.

#### Spring 2010:

- Zach Barnes -- Judge Don Ash, Murfreesboro
- Yasser Arafat – Chamber of Commerce, Nashville
- Patrick Morrison – Tennessee Democratic Party
- Carlee Greene – Southern Strategy Lobbying, Nashville
- Katie Phillips –CASA of Rutherford County
- Hollis Martin -- Mike McWherter for Governor
- Courtney Secrest -- Mike McWherter for Governor
- Herjin Emin – Bill Haslam for Governor
- Justin Witt –Catholic Charities of TN, Refugee Social Services
- William Lockhart -- Zach Wamp for Governor
- Bailey Todd – Catholic Charities of YN

*Interested in doing an internship – see the bulletin board outside the office, contact Dr. Langenbach and/or attend the special internship forum to get more information and talk to recent interns.*



## Student Organizations

### Mock Trial

(by E. Lee Whitwell)

Since 1989, MTSU's Mock Trial program has provided students with an opportunity to compete in a trial setting against other colleges around the country. Each fall semester, MTSU teams attend invitational tournaments in the region, in order to hone their skills as attorneys and as testifying witnesses. Some invitational hosts include Saint Louis University, the University of Georgia, Eastern Kentucky University, and MTSU which hosts the Mid-South Mock Trial Invitational on campus. It is one of the largest of its kind in the United States, attracting around 50 teams from schools nation-wide. Last fall, MTSU teams took 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place trophies at Saint Louis University's invitational, 3<sup>rd</sup> place at MTSU's invitational, and 1<sup>st</sup> place at Georgia Tech's "Ramblin' Wreck". Austin Purvis, Daniel Vaughn, Nathan Brown, Micah McClure, Andrew Dellinger, Lee Whitwell and Coby Sherlock also received individual awards at these competitions.



In the Spring, the American Mock Trial Association organizes regional and national competitions, which MTSU also attends. Last Spring's competitions resulted in more individual awards, won by Rachel Harmon and Austin Purvis, as well as 2<sup>nd</sup> place at the regional competition hosted by the University of Alabama at Birmingham. MTSU also received Honorable Mention at their Opening Round Championship, hosted by Furman University. The team also received the Spirit of AMTA award, an honor given to the team that best displays sportsmanship and professionalism at competition.

Coached by Dean John Vile and Brandi Snow, the MTSU teams plan to attend many of the same competitions this year. Incoming freshmen interested in the organization will have an opportunity to compete in place of those who have graduated. Students of the program often go on to pursue legal careers with the skills they obtain in competitions. Austin Purvis, Jacob Strait, and Daniel Vaughn are three Mock Trial participants who graduated last spring and are currently enrolled in law schools.

### Model United Nations

(by Adrian N. Mackie)

The Model United Nations team at MTSU competes in regional and national competitions designed to simulate the workings of the United Nations. In the past we have represented Israel, Iran, the United Arab Emirates, Slovakia and a number of other countries on various topics including human rights, security council reform, nuclear proliferation, and the international effort to curb the arms trade. This fall we will be attending the National Model United Nations competition in Washington, D.C. and are considering an international conference for the spring. Our team competes well with hundreds of students from various universities including Harvard, Stanford, Berkeley, and Georgetown. If you are interested in MUN, you can participate in a one credit hour class is taught in the fall or directly through the MUN student organization. For more information, email the president at [anm3t@mtmail.mtsu.edu](mailto:anm3t@mtmail.mtsu.edu).

### Moot Court

Last year, MTSU's Moot Court team set the bar high by going to the AMCA National tournament in their first year of competition. In their second year the Moot Court team plans to continue its new found success by once again qualifying for the National tournament in New Orleans. "We have a lot of promising students this year," said Eric Bisby, President of the Moot Court team. "I've had classes with many of them. They're very intelligent and are well versed in public speaking."

This year, the Moot Court team has a very unique case that tackles two pressing issues in America. The case asks students to argue the Constitutionality of The National Health Care Bill, and to argue whether laws like Proposition 8 violate the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment.

Teams are comprised of two student and each team argues both sides of the cases acting as the petitioners and the respondents. They are judged by attorneys and law students who act as the Supreme Court Justices. On November 12th the MTSU teams plan on attending the Southwestern Regional Tournament in Arkansas.

## Faculty Updates

To plan and prepare for the launch of the Political Science Department's new minor in Political and Civic Engagement, **Dr. David Carleton** attended the annual meeting of the American Democracy Project, "Agents and Architects of Democracy," June 17-19, in Providence, R.I., and the Tennessee Campus Compact workshop, "Navigating the Maze: Securing External Funding for Civic Engagement Programs," April 22, at Lipscomb University.

\* \* \*

**Dr. Karen Petersen** attended the 2010 SACS Commission on Colleges Institute on Quality Enhancement and Accreditation in Tampa, a three-day summer institute with a focus on successful assessment practices and quality enhancement initiatives related to improving student learning.

\* \* \*

**Dr. Sekou Franklin** received \$1,500 Faculty Research and Creative Activity Grant for his proposal "The Movement for Clean Energy and Green-Collar Jobs in Urban America"

\* \* \*

**Dr. Andrei Korobkov** presented a paper entitled "Migration of Russian Highly-Skilled Workers" at the Institutions, Networks and Trust in European-Russian Relations Conference at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, March 26-27, 2010. (pictures in his file)

\* \* \*

Along with a handful of colleagues from academia and a score of Mexican experts from DNI, CIA, DEA, DOD, ICE, and State, **Dr. Stephen Morris** participated in a two-day futures scenario game on Mexico for the national intelligence community in McLean, Virginia in July.

### Welcome new adjunct faculty

**Darwin Colston** is a practicing attorney and partner at Mitchell & Mitchell Attorneys at Law in Murfreesboro. He earned his JD from the Nashville School of Law in 2001 and clerked for Judge McFarlin in Murfreesboro for three years. Mr. Colston will be teaching PLEG 3010 Litigation in the fall.

**Kevin Duong** graduated from Vanderbilt in 2009 and recently completed a Masters degree at the University of Chicago. His research centers on political theory and gender issues. Mr. Duong will be teaching two sections of PS 1010 Foundations of Government this fall.

**Diane Wilde** is currently the executive director of Clinch Valley Literacy Council in Oak Ridge. An assistant professor at TSU until 2008 where she taught courses in non-profit management, and coordinated the on-line program in professional studies, Dr. Wilde holds a Ph.D. in Public Administration from TSU. This fall, Dr. Wilde will be teaching PS 4630 Personnel Management.

**Matthew Simpson** recently completed his Master's at Vanderbilt where he also served as a research and teaching assistant. Mr. Simpson will be teaching two sections of PS 2010 American Government and Politics this semester.

**Liz Norell** is completing her Ph.D. at Vanderbilt with a focus on American politics. She has taught at the Nashville State Community College and tutored with Kaplan Test Prep. Ms Norell earned her Master's degree from the University of Texas at Dallas. This fall, Ms Norell will teach two sections of PS 2010 American Government and Politics.



### Adjunct MARGARET HUFF Selected Liaison to ABA Ethics 20/20 Commission and Elected to ABA Dispute Resolution Section Council

January 20, 2010, Nashville TN. Attorney/mediator Margaret M. Huff was selected as a liaison to the American Bar Association Ethics 20/20 Commission, a 3 year appointment by the ABA Section of Dispute Resolution. Huff will represent the Dispute Resolution Section's viewpoints as the Commission conducts a thorough review of ABA Model Rules of Professional Conduct and the U.S. system of lawyer regulation, in the context of advances in technology and global legal practice developments. Overlapping areas of inquiry include ethical issues related to U.S. lawyers who are regulated by states but work increasingly across state and international borders, and changing technology that enhances virtual cross-border access. Public Commission hearings begin in Orlando FL Feb. 5, 2010 during the ABA Midyear Meeting.

September 7, 2010 Nashville TN. Margaret M. Huff was elected to serve a 3 year term on the American Bar Association Section of Dispute Resolution Council at the Section's annual membership meeting in San Francisco. Established in 1993 and a national leader in the dispute resolution field, the [ABA Section of Dispute Resolution](#) has more than 17,500 members. Its Council sets policy for the Section.

Huff owns and operates the dispute resolution firm [Margaret Huff Mediation](#) offering arbitration, mediation and workplace conflict management training services to businesses and organizations in Tennessee. She also serves on the MTSU faculty as an Adjunct Professor. A TN Supreme Court Rule 31 Listed General Civil Mediator, Huff is on the federal court rosters of mediators in both East and Middle Tennessee.

## Faculty Updates

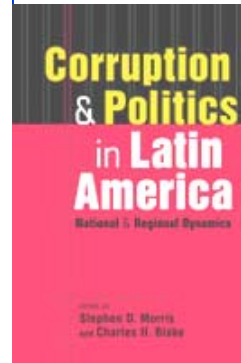
### Research Report

**Drs. DiPaolo and Petersen** explore judicial decision related to security matters.

The Supreme Court has a tendency to decide war powers cases that deal with the Executive limiting individual rights by offering a separation of powers framework rather than the language found in the Bill of Rights. Drs. DiPaolo and Petersen have decided to examine whether or not the trend continues at the lower court levels of judicial decision making. Taking the case of electronic surveillance, DiPaolo and Petersen are currently categorizing over 150 district and circuit court cases (as opposed to 16 at the Supreme Court level) in the hopes of finding some quantitative patterns to explain the federal judiciary's wartime legal rationales.

### Dr. Morris co-edits new book on corruption

Does corruption grease the wheels of Latin American politics, facilitating its operation? Or does it undermine democratic rule and worsen the perennial problems of poverty and inequality. Do citizens condemn, condone, or simply acquiesce to the corrupt behavior of their politicians? *Corruption and Politics in Latin America* addresses these thorny questions, offering a fresh and timely approach to the subject. Morris also offers a chapter exploring corruption and change in Mexico.



### Research Report

**Dr. Livingston** funded project on **TENNESSEE'S GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS: A HISTORY OF GLOBALIZATION IN THE VOLUNTEER STATE.**

This study is motivated by the realization that globalization will significantly affect the economy and society of Tennessee but that the extent of the state's globalization is poorly understood and has yet to be measured. It addresses the pattern and historical development of globalization in Tennessee, creating a methodology to assess the global competitiveness of each of the state's counties, and a set of variables to measure that competitiveness. It will produce a figurative map of globalization in Tennessee. The competitiveness of each county will be determined, as well as how that competitiveness is changing over time. This data will be analyzed to understand how counties around the state might alter their prospective futures through closing potential export "gaps" or by exploiting relationships between trade, foreign investment and immigration. Its conclusions will be relevant for the state's efforts to develop and maintain communities and employment under rapidly changing global conditions.

**Dr. Petersen** was awarded tenure and promotion to Associate Professor.

**Dr. Korobkov** was promoted to Full Professor.



INSTITUTIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

**Dr. Karen Petersen** has become the coordinator of Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment for the College of Liberal Arts.

## Special Courses for Spring 2011

- Dr. Sekou will teach *PS 3550 Democratic Participation and Civic Advocacy* for the first time. A course designed for students with a minor in Political and Civic Engagement, this course examines theories and practice of political participation, social movements, and activism in democracies.
- Dr. McDaniel will be teaching *PS 4870 Adv Studies in Political Theory: Totalitarianism.*
- Dr. Willis will be teaching *PS 4820 Adv Studies in American Politics: Judicial Decision Making.* This course is designed to acquaint students with various aspects of the theories and methods of interpreting legal texts with a concentration on statutory and constitutional material.

## Alumni Updates

**Stephen A. Brown** (2007 graduate) received his Juris Doctorate from Cumberland School of Law, Samford University in December 2009.

**Clay Francis** finished a Masters in Environmental Law and Policy at Vermont Law School and has recently started as a Clean Energy Advocate at the Vermont Public Interest Research Group (VPIRG). He has two forthcoming publications due out later this year: a chapter in a text book on clean energy law and a chapter in a book describing the environmental design of energy security. He has also been working at the Institute for Energy and the Environment, a think-tank, policy and research institute based at the Vermont Law School. [at MTSU, Clay did a semester in Spain, a semester in Mexico, a legislative internship, and spent three summers as an RA and instructor at the Governor's School for International Relations at the University of Memphis].

**Jade Edward Graham** (1994 graduate and legislative intern) started a new business in his hometown of Lebanon in April of this year. He is president and operator of Graham Insurance, Inc., specializing in the sales and servicing of auto, home, life and business insurance products as an independent agency.

**Kourtney Hennard** has concluded her work for State Representative Joe Armstrong, the Chairman of the Tennessee House Health and Human Resources Committee, and has accepted a full scholarship to University of Tennessee College of Law for admission this fall.

**Tracy Markham** (2009 graduate) has taken a position in the department of Sales and Business Development for HB Litigation Conferences.

**Corey Perkins**, BS in International Relations (2007): "I will be attending the very prestigious University of Oslo (ranked 1st in Norway, 6th in Europe, and in the top 60 in the world) for an intensive 2 year Master's of philosophy in Peace and Conflict Studies with a focus in International Relations. ...The peace and conflict studies program is one of the most prestigious in the world of its kind, and while a couple of thousand apply each year, only somewhere around 40 or 50 students are accepted."

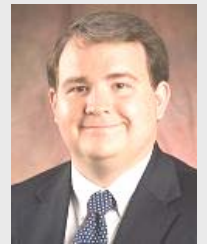


### Homecoming 2010

A tent will be set up in Walnut Grove during Homecoming (October 23, 2010) after the parade for Urban Planning, Public Administration, and Political Science alumni and/or former students and colleagues of Prof Currey Peacock back in the late 1960's – late 1980's to gather for lunch and to catch up **All PS alumni are invited.** Contact Rhonda in Alumni Office at 800-533-6878 or Robert Lewis at 615-893-6441 for information.

### MTSU Political Science Department Alumnus Dedicates Time to Pro Bono Work

Knoxville, TN, August 31, 2010—Scott Griswold, a Murfreesboro native and a graduate of MTSU with a B.B.A. in Accounting (2003) and a B.S. in Political Science (2006), was recognized for his commitment to pro bono service in the Knoxville area. Griswold is an attorney at Paine, Tarwater, and Bickers, LLP in Knoxville, Tennessee.



At Legal Aid of East Tennessee's Pro Bono Celebration on July 22, Griswold was honored with the *Pro Bono Advocate Award* and was recognized for devoting at least 50 hours of his time to pro bono work. In fact, Griswold contributed nearly 250 hours of legal services to pro bono cases.

Griswold's pro bono work has included cases involving the representation of homeowners in wrongful foreclosure incidents. He also represented an indigent defendant in an appeal before the Tennessee Supreme Court, and in a 5-0 opinion, the Court sided with the indigent client, remanding the case for further proceedings. When asked about his pro bono work, Griswold stated, "When I was a law clerk to Chief Justice William Barker, he constantly encouraged me to do pro bono work once I started practicing law, and I am grateful to be with a firm that shares and supports my commitment to the community."

## Keep us Posted!

Send news and updates to: Pam Davis ([pdavis@mtsu.edu](mailto:pdavis@mtsu.edu)) or MTSU, Box 29, Murfreesboro, TN 37132

## Don't Study Any More (or any less)?

A recent study (see Philip Babcock and Mindy Marks, "Leisure College USA: The Decline in Student Study Time," *AEI Online*, August 5, 2010) finds that the average full-time student at a four-year college in the US in 1961 studied about 24 hours per week, while today's students put in only 14 hours per week. Only a small portion of the difference could be explained by changes in the number of work hours, leading the researchers to conclude that the main difference relates to falling achievement standards. The study also found using longitudinal data that students who study more in college earn more in the long run.

# ACADEMIC SUCCESS SERIES

## HOW TO BE A SUCCESSFUL MTSU STUDENT

These one hour workshops are designed for any student who needs help or wants to learn more about the topic area. We hope these "How To" sessions will help you be a successful student!!

**ALL WORKSHOPS HELD IN CORLEW RESIDENCE HALL CLASSROOM**

September 14th 4:30pm & September 15th 2:00pm	<b>How To Get Started at MTSU</b> This session will cover topics including how to navigate RaiderNet & D2L, understanding the Lottery Scholarship, and helpful tips about GPA and academic standing.
September 21st 4:30pm & September 22nd 2:00pm	<b>How To Use Your Time Wisely</b> Time management is something most students struggle with on a daily basis. This session will cover techniques to help you better manage your time.
September 28th 4:30pm & September 29th 2:00pm	<b>How to Master Course Material</b> This session will cover tips on note taking, how to effectively study your notes as well as tips for navigating different types of tests.
October 5th 4:30pm & October 6th 2:00pm	<b>How To Find the Right Career for You</b> Having trouble choosing a major? This session will cover techniques on helping you find the right major and career field that best fits your personality and abilities.
October 26th 4:30pm & October 27th 2:00pm	<b>How to Use Your Academic Advisor</b> This session will cover information on how to know who your advisor is, how to get the most out of your time with your advisor and what questions you should ask your advisor.
November 2nd 4:30pm & November 3rd 2:00pm	<b>How to Give a Winning Presentation</b> This session will cover tips and tricks that will help students refine their presentation and public speaking skills.
November 30th 4:30pm & December 1st 2:00pm	<b>How to Prepare for Final Exams</b> This session will provide a helpful guide to students who are not sure how to study for final exams. A brief review of test taking tips will also be included.

Questions? Contact the University College Advising Center at (615) 898-2339

## Intern at the Tennessee General Assembly in Spring 2011!

### Full-time, paid, credit-bearing positions



**Eligibility:** Applicants for the Tennessee Legislative Internship Program must be enrolled as juniors, seniors, or graduate students in degree programs. Many applicants major in political science, history, public relations, social work, economics, sociology, or journalism, but students in any major are welcome to apply. Applicants must have at least a 2.5 GPA.

For more information on requirements and applications, see information on the Dept web page and/or contact: Dr. Mark Byrnes, Todd Hall 231, [mbyrnes@mtsu.edu](mailto:mbyrnes@mtsu.edu), 898-2351

## November Elections

To be able to vote in the fall election, you must register by Monday, October 4.

Energizing the youth vote in national elections is always challenging; engaging students in state and local elections in a non-presidential cycle, all the more so.

(<http://www.civicyouth.org/?p=369>)

Students may obtain voter information and Tennessee's mail-in Voter Registration Application online

(<http://www.tennessee.gov/sos/election/registration.htm>) along with the address of each county election commission.

A message from the American Democracy Project, MTSU



## *Interesting Stuff ?*

- Hundreds of political and social documentaries are available on [Sangfilms.com](http://Sangfilms.com)
- Need a guide to Tennessee Politics. Go to: [www.politics1.com/tn.htm](http://www.politics1.com/tn.htm)
- St. Petersburg [Politafact.com](http://Politafact.com) (2009 Pulitzer Prize) provides fact checking of political news
- Good at geography? <http://www.minijuegosgratis.com/juegos/hwdykyworld/hwdykyworld.html?b415=0766> is a simple geography game. See how well you do.
- A small quiz at <http://www.theadvocates.org/quizp/index.html> can help you identify where you stand ideologically. [http://www.ted.com/talks/jonathan\\_haidt\\_on\\_the\\_moral\\_mind.html#](http://www.ted.com/talks/jonathan_haidt_on_the_moral_mind.html#) is an excellent short video (18 minutes) discussing the moral foundations of ideology.



Look for information on **Political Science Nights** at upcoming **PREDATORS** games  
Special group discounts...

# Political Science

MIDDLE TENNESSEE  
STATE UNIVERSITY



The **Political Science Newsletter** is a collaborative effort edited by Dr. Morris. Students, faculty and alumni are welcome to submit any items of interest for inclusion in a future issue. Feel free to share any ideas regarding future stories or features. Send items or comments to: [sdmorris@mtsu.edu](mailto:sdmorris@mtsu.edu)

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[www.mtsu.edu/politicalscience/index.shtml](http://www.mtsu.edu/politicalscience/index.shtml)

