POLITICAL SCIENCE GOES TO DES MOINES

The Department of Political Science is now offering its Bachelor of Arts degree in Des Moines! Students can take classes in-person at the Iowa Center for Higher Education campus in Des Moines and online from Iowa City. The Center was made possible when the 95-year-old AIB College of Business closed its doors this summer and gifted its beautiful 20-acre campus to the University of Iowa. UI manages the campus as a resource for all three state regent universities. For more information, please visit the official website.

ICPSR 2016

Program reflection — by Scott LaCombe, graduate student

This summer I had the fortune to attend the Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR) summer program at the University of Michigan. Interacting with political scientists from across the world was a great way to feel integrated within the discipline. I took courses in MLE and Time Series, and can confidently say our faculty here better prepare grad students more than almost every other program I talked to. I would like to thank the department for funding that made my trip possible! In the free time we did have between classes, I enjoyed exploring the Huron River and singing karaoke with our own, Sara Mitchell.

APSA 2016

Conference reflection — by Sam Schutt, undergraduate student

I enjoyed my time attending the premier conference for political science in Philadelphia. I was exposed to huge opportunities to meet well-known academics, and also provided me an opportunity to see hundreds of interesting research projects from around the world. While the experience was daunting and filled with new experiences, I savored the opportunity to participate in a conference that expanded my understanding of research and research design, collaboration that enhances even the most experienced writers, and lectures that gave me insight on how to predict and study this tumultuous election.

FACULTY AWARDS

Fred Boehmke recently received two NSF grants to study the diffusion of public policy across the American states. The first will seek to build a database of over 600 policy diffusion episodes that will record the year of adoption by each state for every policy. The second proposal will merge the diffusion data with information on all state legislation, administrative rulemaking, and court decisions over more than a decade.

Elizabeth Menninga won the Political Ties Award, for the best article published on political networks in the previous year, along with Skyler Cranmer and Peter Mucha. "Kantian fractionalization predicts the conflict propensity of the international system," paper published in the Sept 22, 2015 issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (Vol. 112, No. 38).

Fred Boehmke, Tracy Osborn, and Emily Schilling won the Best Journal Article of the Year award from the State Politics and Policy Section presented at the 2016 meeting of the American Political Science Association in September. Their article, “Pivotal Politics and Initiative Use in the American States," appeared in Political Research Quarterly in December 2015. Full text article.

PUBLICATIONS

Alyssa Prorok has a forthcoming article at International Organization entitled "The (In)compatibility of Peace and Justice? The International Criminal Court and Civil Conflict Termination".

Welcome back everyone! Summer is over and the new school year has begun. I started my new role as the DEO August 1 this year after a summer of research and conferences in China. There are many new things for me to learn as the DEO. I spend a lot of time trying to understand and follow the rules and regulations related to departmental operation and governance, such as budget issues, faculty recruitment and reviews, and working with the University Administration. The most enjoyable aspect of the new job, however, is the feeling of providing more direct help for people in the department in their research and teaching. On the research front, after five years of hard work, I am very pleased to see the publication of my new book on Chinese political culture by Oxford University Press. I plan to work on translating and publishing it in Chinese. Hope your summer was enjoyable! Have a great semester!

Wenfang Tang
Professor and Department Chair

Greetings colleagues!

Welcome back everyone! Summer is over and the new school year has begun. I started my new role as the DEO August 1 this year after a summer of research and conferences in China. There are many new things for me to learn as the DEO. I spend a lot of time trying to understand and follow the rules and regulations related to departmental operation and governance, such as budget issues, faculty recruitment and reviews, and working with the University Administration. The most enjoyable aspect of the new job, however, is the feeling of providing more direct help for people in the department in their research and teaching. On the research front, after five years of hard work, I am very pleased to see the publication of my new book on Chinese political culture by Oxford University Press. I plan to work on translating and publishing it in Chinese. Hope your summer was enjoyable! Have a great semester!

Gallagher Leach and wife, Rachel will be expecting their first-born in early December 2016.

Jessica Herndon and husband, Alex, will be expecting their second child in late February 2017.
EVENTS CALENDAR

OCTOBER

FRIDAY 7 – Professor Amy Liu, University of Texas at Austin, “Ethnic Attacks, Migrant Networks and Political Trust: Evidence from Romania” (Noon-1:30pm 302 SH)

FRIDAY 14 – Professor Daniel Sewell, University of Iowa, Department of Biostatistics, “Clustering Dynamic and Evolving Data” (Noon-1:30pm 302 SH)

FRIDAY 21 – International Relations Undergrad Career Workshop
Speakers: Amb. Ron McMullen, Jeff Keuter and Mackenzie Borders (Noon-1:30pm 302 SH)

TUESDAY 25 – Public Forum: Election 2016, Old Capitol Senate Chamber (5:00-7:00pm) *Reception following from 6:30-7:30pm 302 SH

FRIDAY 28 – Graduate Student speaker, Shuai Jin “How Chinese Citizens Respond to Government Propaganda on Economic Inequality” (Noon-1:30pm 302 SH)

NOVEMBER

FRIDAY 3 – Bear Braumoeller, Hosted by the Iowa Social Research Center (Contact Fred Boehmke for more information)

FRIDAY 11 – Professor Nate Monroe, University of California, “Minority-Party Influence in the U.S. Congress: Floor Proposals and Minority Leverage in the House” (Noon-1:30pm 302 SH)

THURSDAY & FRIDAY 24-25 – Thanksgiving Holiday

DECEMBER

FRIDAY 9 – Holiday Potluck (Noon-2pm)

Visit the Political Science events webpage for more information.

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➢ READYSET SIGN-UP GUIDE (A LITTLE CONFUSING)

➢ VACCINE SCHEDULE

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More info can be found here.

PAINTER ON NOTRE-DAME BRIDGE

He’s on the Île Saint-Louis side, a white-haired man brushing canvas, lightening the black-side of Notre-Dame for those who attend.

Every day he does this.
No need to finish, he has another 99 years.

- Mike Lewis-Beck, professor emeritus