
PoliGRAM

— The CSU Political Science Alumni Newsletter • Autumn, 2003 —

Straayer recognized by the Colorado legislature

This semester, Prof. John Straayer might have time for a walk in the mountains with a friend (right, top). But last spring, as he has done for 23 years, John was at the state legislature, supervising CSU's internship program.

On April 17, the legislature recognized John's remarkable contribution with a Special Commendation. It read, "The Colorado House of Representatives ... hereby extends sincere commendation to Professor John Straayer, PhD, Colorado State University's Director of the Political Science Legislative Internship Program, who for 23 years has been bringing interns to the Capitol to assist legislators. He has dedicated 40 years to education through research, teaching, and service. On behalf of the citizens of Colorado, the House of Representatives extend their sincere gratitude for his invaluable service and commitment."

John's family and the departmental staff joined him in Denver for the ceremony. •



(left) Representative Angela Paccione congratulates John on the House floor. To her left are the departmental Administrative Assistants Earlene Bell and Violet Marquart.



From the Chair...

Last December, the journal *PS* (published by the American Political Science Association) ran an article assessing graduate program quality by a number of different measures. Among those measures was book publishing productivity. One chart tracked Ph.D. programs by measuring how many major scholarly books (i.e., reviewed in the *American Political Science Review*) various programs' graduates had published in the last five years. Results were standardized for the number of graduates currently teaching, so the ranking is adjusted for the size of the program.

CSU Political Science ranked eighth on this list, one behind Harvard and one ahead of Cal-Berkeley. By this measure, our PhD graduates who are employed as political science professionals have been very productive, in terms of major books published.

The article's conclusion reads in part, "Case Western Reserve has the most productive graduates and many other less-well-known programs, such as Kent State, Colorado State, and Cincinnati, also rank in the top 20."

We take this as an indication that our graduates are doing good work, and that our approach to graduate study over the years is paying off. We know we have a long way to go before we're recognized as a peer of the top programs. But this kind of encouragement makes the climb a bit easier. Hats off to our grads!

Bill Chaloupka, Professor and Chair

The People of Political Science

Outstanding Junior & Senior



For 2002-2003, the Outstanding Junior was Rebecca Young (below) and the Outstanding Seniors were Brook Nightwalker (above left) and Penny Burke (above right). Not pictured are the winners of the Vloyantes Scholarship, Duane Aldrich and Jeff Runyan.



Faculty & Staff Notes

David Allen (Professor) passed away last March. David will be fondly remembered by his colleagues and students. He had taught undergraduate law courses, research methods, among other topics. He was just finishing a year as chair of CSU's faculty council. David's memory was honored in a memorial service on campus, where an overflow crowd heard eulogies by President Albert Yates, Provost Peter Nichols, Professor John Straayer, former student Scott Peck, and David's brother, Robert. The department is establishing a memorial fund for scholarships to Hansard scholars (David inaugurated and sponsored the Hansard internship to the British House of Commons; Professor Valerie Assetto will take over that role). Donations to the fund can be made on page 6 (a checkmark on the form will designate your contribution).



Earlene Bell (Administrative Assistant III) is retiring early in 2004, marking the end of a departmental era. Most every instructor and student who has spent time here in the last three decades has a story about how Earlene saved the day in one way or another. An administrator extraordinaire, Earlene makes the impossible seem almost routine. We hardly know what we will do without her, but this much is for sure: we will remember her with great fondness.

Michele Betsill (Assistant Professor) spent last summer researching climate change as one of the first social scientists to participate in the National Center for Atmospheric Research project on that topic. She has been designated an NCAR Affiliate Scientist.

Robert Duffy (Associate Professor) became the departmental coordinator for graduate studies this year. His newest book, *The Green Agenda in American Politics*, was just published by the University of Kansas Press. Bob's previous book, *Nuclear Politics in America* received the 1999 Caldwell award from the APSA for best book in environmental politics. He came to us from the faculty of Ryder University, NJ, in 2001.

Undergraduate Alum Updates

1960s

Judith Pearson Richards (B.A., 1969) serves on the Board of Trustees for the University of Wyoming. She has worked in the banking industry and is in her third term as Secretary of the Wyoming Republican Party. She has been a delegate to the National Republican Convention four times.

1970s

Perry L. Goorman (B.A., 1973) is a lawyer in private practice with offices in Greenwood Village, Colorado (Denver Tech Center) and Phoenix, Arizona.

Mike Dulacki (B.A., 1974) is a Certified Professional Landman in the oil and gas industry. As owner of Intermountain Land Services Inc., he helps engineers and geologists with such tasks as verifying mineral ownership, and negotiating oil and gas leases with mineral owners.

A. W. (Bill) Ritter, Jr. (B.A., 1978) was presented the College of Liberal Arts Honor Alumnus Award at the 2003 Distinguished Alumni Awards dinner last May. Bill is District Attorney for Denver.

1980s

Timothy M. Cole (B.A., 1981) earned a Ph.D. from the University of Washington, Seattle. Tim chairs the Political Science Department at the University of Maine, where his wife, Barbara (B.S., CSU, Chemistry, 1981; Ph.D., UW, 1986) chairs the Chemistry Department.

Thomas W. Tye II (B.A., 1983) obtained his J.D. from Creighton University and has since practiced law in Kearney, Nebraska. He is the managing partner of Tye & Rademacher and currently serves as President of the Nebraska Bank Attorneys Association and Chair-elect of the State Bar Association's House of Delegates.

Matt Jones (B.A. 1977, MA 83) is a resource and recreation planner for the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks. He previously served in the Colorado House of Representatives as Assistant Minority Leader.

1990s

Nicole Burnham (B.A. 1991). See page 5, this issue.

Chad Andrew Hanneman (B.A., 1999) was selected for the Presidential Management Internship, a prestigious, nationally competitive appointment in governmental service.

Frank Marton (B.A. 1990) is Regional President of Novartis Pharmaceuticals for Central and Eastern Europe.

Christina Thomas (B.A. 1996) recently started graduate studies at American University's International Communication program in Washington D.C.

2000s

Megan Schad (B.A., 2002) works in the Texas House of Representatives, assisting Representative Peggy Hamric, who chairs the House Administration Committee.

Neil Lisowski (B.A., 2003) was commissioned as a 2d Lt in the U.S. Air Force and began pilot training at Vance AFB in Oklahoma.

Joshua Logie (B.A., 2003) was commissioned as a 2d Lt in the U.S. Air Force and began work as an aircraft maintenance officer at Yokota AFB in Japan.

Yelanda Love (B.A., 2003), a former legislative intern, entered the University of Notre Dame Law School.

Paul Sampson (B.A., 2002) is Staff Assistant for Rep. Scott McInnis (R-Colorado) in Washington, D.C.

“The political science business is booming at CSU, with a 24% enrollment increase and a 30% jump in Majors over the past year. If I were an investor, I’d buy CSU Political Science.”
Assoc. Professor Scott Moore,
Political Science
Undergraduate Coordinator

Current Undergrad Snares Award

Senior Jeff Runyan received the Rotary International Ambassador Scholarship, allowing him to study for a year in Chile, at the Universidad Pontificia Catolica de Chile in Santiago. Having done two levels of interview competitions, Jeff found out about the scholarship in early May. Professors Kathryn Hochstetler and Stephen Mumme encouraged him to apply and wrote letters of support.

Jeff is double-majoring in Spanish. Last December, he was awarded the John Vloyantes Scholarship, a scholarship that memorializes one of the Department's colleagues.

Graduate Alum Updates

1970s

Barbara (Oglesby) Rodman (M.A., 1975) worked in local and state government, including a stint with the Office of State Planning and Budget under Governor Lamm. She then completed MA and PhD's in English at the University of Denver. She is now Associate Professor of English and Chair of Creative Writing at University of North Texas in Denton.

1980s

Pamela A. Currey (M.A., 1984) serves as Deputy Secretary of Finance in the administration of Governor Mark R. Warner, Commonwealth of Virginia. Prior to this position she worked for the legislature, specifically for the Senate Finance Committee, for thirteen years.

Joel F. Clark (M.A., 1989) is the Washington Director for Michigan State University's Semester Study Program in Washington, D.C. His book, *Intern to Success*, was recently published by Houghton Mifflin.

1990s

Christina Sherman (M.A., 1999) received her law degree from Cornell University in 2002. She is currently serving a federal clerkship for Chief Judge Hayden Head in the Southern District of Texas.

Daniel Sherman (M.A., 1999) is a Ph.D. candidate in American Politics at Cornell University. His research on local community and government responses to proposed low-level radioactive waste disposal facilities is supported by the Morris K. Udall Foundation, the Teresa Heinz Scholars for the Environment, and the National Science Foundation.

Leslie R. Alm (Ph.D., 1990) is Professor and Director of Graduate Studies at the Department of Public Policy & Administration, Boise State University, where he was named last year's Outstanding Teacher of the Year. Les visited Fort Collins and the Political Science department this summer.

Georgia Carvalho (Ph.D., 1998) recently became Program Manager for The Woods Hole Research Center's Brazil program, with responsibility for logistical management of field activities, coordinating staff, and managing projects.

2000s

Chris Burnett (Ph.D., 2003) defended his dissertation ("Wildlife Policy in the States: A Comparative Case Study of Policy Change in California, Colorado, and Ohio"). He teaches Journalism at California State University, Long Beach.

Kurt Cline (Ph.D., 2003) completed his dissertation ("EPA and the States: Working Relationships in Environmental Protection") and accepted a position in Political Science at California State University, Fresno.

Lisa Dale (Ph.D. 2003) completed her dissertation ("Community Forestry in Ethiopia: Finding the Locus of Governance") while teaching on campus in the College of Natural Resources. She then accepted a position as a Policy Fellow with the Wilderness Society in Denver.

Donna Lybecker (Ph.D. 2003) completed her dissertation ("Decentralization of Mexican Environmental & Water Policy: Baja California and Sonora") while teaching in our department. She then accepted a position as a Post Doctoral Research Fellow in Fort Collins.

Pamela Duncan (Ph.D. 2003) completed her dissertation ("Subnational Impacts of NAFTA'S Environmental Regime: A Comparative Analysis of Canada, The United States, and Mexico") while teaching in our department. She has recently relocated to Southern California.

Your 15 minutes of fame!

We'd love to include your listing in the next **PoliGRAM**. Just send a note to Bill Chaloupka at williamc@colostate.edu or at Political Science, CSU, Fort Collins, CO 80523-1782.

M.A. student honored

This spring, a paper written by M.A. student Kevin Spears, "The Colorado River Delta and NGO Interaction," won the graduate award in the 2003 Western Social Science Association Student Paper Competition.

That is a major honor for an M.A. student. Kevin presented the paper at the annual WSSA meeting in Las Vegas.

What can you do with a Political Science degree?

Although it is not as good a joke as Garrison Keillor's running gag about English majors on his NPR show, we do sometimes poke a little fun at the job prospects for Political Science grads. After all, politics is not always a stable, popular profession.

As our Alum update pages suggest, our grads go on to do all kinds of interesting work. But after last year's issue of *PoliGram*, we received a note that pretty much takes the cake.

Nicole Burnham (BA, 1991) was a favorite in the department. When she went on to get advanced degrees from the University of Michigan (from two of that school's most prestigious programs), we were justifiably proud of her accomplishments.

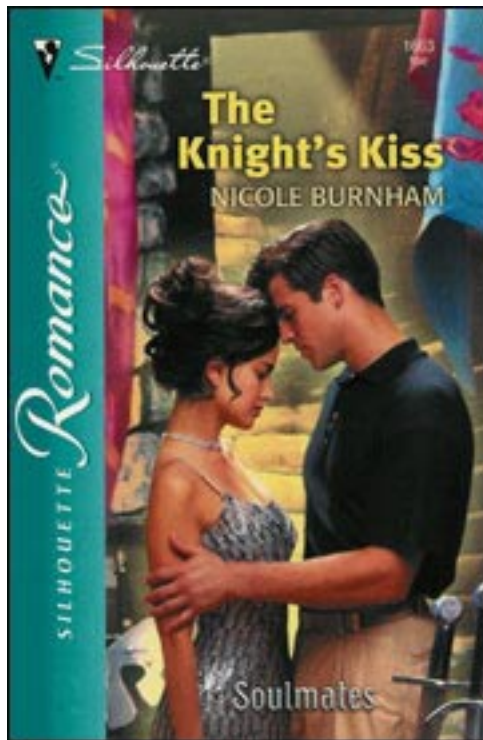
But that's nothing compared to the glee that met the news of her new line of work. Don't get me wrong, we're not all customers of the romance section at the CSU bookstore. But I think it's safe to say that we're all a little envious of a successful writer who doesn't need to include footnotes!

What's even better (and what allowed us the liberty of the headline that tops the page) is that Nicole reports that she's still finding her political science training useful. She's used information from her comparative politics courses here (she specifically mentioned Professor Valerie Assetto's courses) in the scenarios for her novels.

From Nicole's web site (www.nicoleburnham.com): "I'm proud to say I'm a fifth-generation Coloradan, but as the daughter of an Army dentist, I was raised traveling the world. At present count, I've lived in eight U.S. states. I also had the great fortune to attend high school in Germany. Growing up 'military' gave me the opportunity to see the world



Nicole Burnham, from her web site (above, Susan Wilson Photo). Her current Silhouette Romance hit (below).



in a way most American kids never can--my parents took me someplace new most weekends and nearly every school break. How many people can say they've skied the Swiss Alps, snorkeled in the Grenadines, and successfully haggled their way through Cairo's Khan al Khalili marketplace? Needless to say, that upbringing left me with a permanent travel bug!

"After graduating from CSU, I obtained both a law degree and a master's degree in political science from the University of Michigan, focused on establishing what I'd always thought would be a long, secure legal career. (If you're a voracious reader, love to write, and can see different sides to every story, you should be a lawyer, right? Wrong!) Those who know me weren't surprised to see my long, secure legal career only lasted a year. I soon realized writing romance would be a more adventuresome career choice than writing stale legal briefs and started work on my first manuscript.

"I now live in a wonderful small town in Massachusetts, but still consider Colorado to be my home. When I'm not at my computer, I enjoy relaxing with my family, spending time in my rose garden, playing in my local softball league and traveling—the more exotic the locale, the better." •

"He read a list of names and notations written in Italian instead of the scholarly Latin. Each man's name brought forth a familiar, but long-dead, face. All were knights promised to Richard the Lionhearted in the Third Crusade."

Thanks for your generous contributions!

With the help of many friends of the department, Political Science has established a good base for a scholarship program. Your contribution helps us support our students. More important, it offers encouragement and recognition for outstanding students.

Visit our Website

The department's web site carries updates to news, and a downloadable version of this newsletter, as a PDF file. Just click News at: <http://www.colostate.edu/Depts/PoliSci/>



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