

# THE TRUMAN POLITICAL SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

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## Professors John Ishiyama and Marijke Breuning Leave Truman

Long time Political Science faculty members Dr. John Ishiyama and Dr. Marijke Breuning have left the department to accept faculty positions at the University of North Texas in Denton.

Dr. Ishiyama came to Truman in 1990 after receiving his doctorate from Michigan State University. He was active in the American Political Science Association and was the director of the McNair program. He was a recipient of the Allen Fellowship for Faculty Excellence, a National Carnegie Foundation Scholar and a recipient of the Governor's Award For Teaching Excellence.

Dr. Marijke Breuning joined the Truman faculty in 1995 after earning her Ph.D. at The Ohio State University and serving a brief stint as an assistant professor at the University of Arkansas. She chaired Truman's International Studies Committee and worked with Dr. Ishiyama as editor of the *Journal of Political Science Education*. She also was a semi-finalist for Truman's Educator of the Year Award in 1999.

Dr. William Jeffrey Justice, a Visiting Assistant Professor of Political Science during 2007-2008, also left Truman in May. He has accepted a faculty position at Campbellsville University in Kentucky.

The department will conduct two tenure track searches this academic year to find permanent replacements for Drs. Ishiyama and Breuning.

## New Faculty Join The Political Science Staff

The Department is pleased to announce three new additions to its faculty as Visiting Assistant Professors of Political Science for Academic Year 08-09.

**Giray Sadik** received his bachelor's degree from Bilkent University in Ankara, Turkey, and he holds a master's degree from Sabanci University in Turkey. He received his Ph.D. at the University of Georgia in May of 2008. His teaching and research interests include International Relations, Comparative Politics and Methodology, with areas of specialization in international security, civil-military relations, politics of developing countries, politics of the European Union and Middle Eastern politics. Dr. Sadik is a member of the Midwest Political Science Association and he has presented papers at a number of professional conferences, including at the International Studies Association, The Western Political Science Association, The Southern Political Science Association and the Middle East and Central Asia Politics, Economics and Society Conference. Dr. Sadik's book *American Image in Turkey and U.S. Foreign Policy* is forthcoming by Lexington Books in 2009.



Dr. Giray Sadik

**Jaekwon Suh** holds a bachelor's and master's in political science from Yonsei University in Seoul, South Korea, and he completed work on his doctorate from UCLA in August of 2008. He also attended the Summer Institute for Empirical Implications of Theoretical Models at the University of Michigan. His teaching and research interests include comparative politics, international relations, political economy, methodology, political institutions in advanced countries, corporate governance, distributive politics in the era of globalization and East Asian politics. He has presented numerous conference papers and has several articles under review for publication.



**Elnur Soltanov** holds a bachelor's and a master's degree from Middle East Technical University in Ankara, Turkey, and is working toward his doctorate from Texas Tech University. His teaching and research interests include international relations, international security, international political economy, foreign resource and investment politics, comparative politics, methodology and post-Soviet politics. He has written chapters for *The Geopolitics of the Turkish World in the 21st Century*, *Turks*, and *Central Asia in World Affairs*, in addition to numerous articles written for Turkish and Azeri newspapers.

### **Professor Paul Parker Receives Advisor Award**

Dr. Paul Parker has received the 2008 E.M. Violette Outstanding Advisor of the Year Award for his work with Truman State Habitat for Humanity. Dr. Parker is an active participant in Kirksville Habitat for Humanity and has taken a leading role in building several homes for deserving families locally. He is also an advisor to Truman State's Pre-Law Club.

### **Former Political Science Faculty Member Returning as Truman's Interim President.**

Dr. Darrell Kruger, former Assistant Professor of Political Science at Truman, has been named Interim University President following the resignation of President Barbara Dixon, effective October 16. Dr. Kruger served for two years on the political science faculty before becoming the University's vice president for academic affairs and dean of instruction for sixteen years.

Dr. Krueger served at the president of Winona State University in Minnesota for another sixteen years before retiring to Southern Utah in 2005. As reported on Truman's website:

"Krueger graduated summa cum laude as co-valedictorian from Southern Utah State College in Cedar City in 1967, with a bachelor of arts degree in political science and history. He earned a master's degree in 1969 and a Ph.D. in 1971 from the University of Arizona, Tucson. He is the 50th Woodrow Wilson Fellow to become a president and he is a member of Phi Beta Kappa. Krueger and his wife Nancy have four children, two of whom graduated from Truman."

## **Truman Political Science Alums Candidates for the Missouri General Assembly**

The Department is proud of the accomplishments of two of its graduates who are running for the Missouri legislature in the November General Election.

**Eric Schmidt** graduated from Truman in 1997 with honors. While at Truman Eric was active in varsity athletics, student government and debate and helped found the Truman Chapter of Habitat for Humanity. Eric went on to earn his law degree at St. Louis University. He has since been active in community affairs and also served as an Alderman for the City of Glendale. He is running for the Missouri State Senate seat in District 15.

**Mike Colona** graduated with a political science degree from Truman in 1991 before earning his law degree at St. Louis University. In private practice Mike specialized in first amendment issues, personal injury and compensation cases. He lives in Tower Grove South neighborhood, where he serves as chairman of the 15th Ward Regular Democratic Committee and he has served as Adjunct Professor of Criminology at the University of Missouri - St. Louis. He is a candidate for the Missouri State House of Representatives, District 67.

## **Call for Papers: Illinois State University Conference for Students of Political Science**

Illinois State University in Normal has issued a call for undergraduate papers for its Seventeenth Annual Conference for Undergraduate Students of Political Science on March 20, 2009. Many of our

## **Political Science Foundation Established**

We are pleased to announce the creation of The Department of Political Science Foundation. Proceeds from the foundation will better allow the department to fund student learning activities, travel and research, in addition to helping the department fund basic needs to meet its undergraduate liberal arts mission.

If you are an alum contacted via phone or mail to support Truman, you may now request that your tax deductible contribution be dedicated to this new foundation. Or you may choose to donate at any time on the department's website at [politicalscience.truman.edu](http://politicalscience.truman.edu). Click on the link "Donate to Political Science." Again, please consider dedicating your contribution to the Department of Political Science Foundation.

students have completed projects in a number of courses that are worthy of revision and presentation at this meeting, and you are encouraged to visit the conference website and to discuss with a political science faculty member any questions that you have concerning this opportunity.

*All undergraduate and graduate students are invited to submit papers for the seventeenth annual Conference for Students of Political Science sponsored by the Illinois State University Department of Politics and Government.*

*We welcome papers on any topic related to government and/or politics. All subfields and political science perspectives are welcome. Panelists at the previous conferences included 750 students attending 100 colleges and universities.*

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*If you are interested in participating in this exciting event, please complete the online proposal submission form or submit a cover letter, containing your contact information (including email address), your school, and the name of the faculty member with whom you are working, and a draft copy of your paper (or the actual paper) by February 8, 2009.*

*Conference website (and submission page):*

<http://www.politicsandgovernment.ilstu.edu/current/conferences/>

*If you would like to serve as a discussant on a panel, please send a letter stating your interest and main areas of scholarly knowledge. E-mail submissions are welcome.*

*If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email:*

[gmklass@ilstu.edu](mailto:gmklass@ilstu.edu) or call us at (309) 438-8638.

*This conference is sponsored by the Undergraduate Political Science Association, The Graduate Student Association, Pi Sigma Alpha, and The Department of Politics and Government at Illinois State University. Best Paper awards are funded through a contribution from Pi Sigma Alpha.*

*If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the conference coordinators:*

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## News and Notables

**Sarah Felts** interned with Rep. Rebecca McClanahan for the 2008 legislative session and over the summer worked as the Finance Director for Steve Eagleton's state Senate campaign. She is working on McClanahan's reelection campaign over the fall, in addition to taking a full slate of classes.

**Bradley Sova** taught English in China over the summer. He taught both elementary school (second grade) and high school (freshmen) and now has TESL (Teaching English as a Second Language) certification. Toward the end of summer he travelled independently in China, with visits to Shanghai, Nanjing, and Huang Shan (Yellow Mountain). His break concluded with a trip to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, as one of Truman's representatives at the HPAIR (Harvard Project on Asia and International Relations) academic conference.

**Dr. Giray Sadik's** book *American Image in Turkey and U.S. Foreign Policy* is forthcoming by Lexington Books in 2009.

**Samantha McClure** spent the Spring of 2008 studying abroad in France at the Université Catholique de l'Ouest. She took classes at the CIDEF institute with a diversity of students from other countries, including those from China, Norway, Ecuador, Korea, Australia and other locations. She also took classes with French students at the UCO. She spent the summer touring Italy, living in Florence, and studying Italian at the institute there.

**Sue Crawford**, Class of 1989, continues work on the faculty at Creighton University, where she is eligible for promotion to full professor this year. She has two boys (7 and 12) who keep her busy with soccer, music, and other various activities. Her husband David was hired last year as the University Archivist at Creighton. He's doing public history work and work with students. Sue is doing an exploratory project on health information community infrastructure with a pharmacy faculty team this summer. This fall she is doing a faculty internship with the LaVista city manager in place of one of her courses.

**Bonnie Treichel** graduated in May 2008; she is now living in Malibu and studying law at Pepperdine University School of Law.

**Shane Mulrooney** interned over the summer at Best Buddies International in Washington, DC. He also took 9 credits worth of classes at Georgetown University. The internship and classes were part of a program called the Institute on Philanthropic and Volunteer Services provided by The Fund for American Studies.

Shane is currently spending the Fall 2008 semester studying abroad in Seville, Spain.

**Lauren DeSantis** received a J.D. from Duke University School of Law after graduating from Truman and now is the Producer and host of "Capitol Cooking", a culinary show in Washington D.C. Episodes of the show can be viewed online at

<http://capitalcookingshow.chanz.tv/>

**Darren McDivitt** interned in the office of United States Senator Jon Kyl over the summer at his office in Tucson, Arizona.

**Dustin Carmack**, Class of 2008, started a job at the Heritage Foundation in D.C. as their Deputy Executive Branch Liaison in their Government Relations shop on July 1st. He'll be there for a little over a year and then study overseas for a year beginning in the fall of 2009 with the Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship, hopefully in Israel.

**Rachel Candee**, Class of 2008, is attending University of Indiana-Bloomington's School of Public and Environmental Affairs where she is studying to receive a Master's in Public Affairs with an emphasis in Nonprofit Management.

**Theresa Perkins** spent the summer interning for Senator George Voinovich (R-OH) on Capitol Hill. In addition to the typical "intern" duties of mail, phone calls, tours and copies, she also had the opportunity to put her research and writing skills to work for the staffers on a number of issues. On top of that, she attended several interesting lectures given by prominent political figures like Sec. Gates and Spellings, and Colin Powell.

**Hanne Bursch** spent the summer in D.C. working with an NGO, Pen Foundation International. She did research work on women's issues in the Middle East and Afghanistan to help coordinate a project on educating nomadic/tribal girls in the Baluchistan region of Afghanistan. The organization has offered Hanne a job upon her graduation in December.

**Lina Khan**, Class of 2008, is working on her Master's degree in Public Policy at the University of Maryland.

**Steve Majors** is completing his doctoral dissertation at Northeastern University. He remains active in politics and was a McCain delegate at the Republican National Convention in St. Paul.

**Jon Strom** graduated with Department Honors in Political Science in May of 2008. Over the summer, he was a field representative for Senator Mitch McConnell's re-election campaign in Kentucky. He is now studying at the University of Kentucky School of Law.

**Amber Buechter** graduated this May with a B.S. in Political Science and a B.A. in French. She is now enjoying an assistantship teaching English in France in the Grenoble district, in the French Alps. After a year in France she plans to attend law school to pursue a degree in international law.

**Dave Bell** graduated in 1975 with a B.A. in Political Science. He completed both M.P.A. and M.A. degrees while working 21 years as a City Manager and City Administrator, most recently in Columbus, Nebraska (pop. 21,000). For the past nine years Dave served as Development/Marketing Manager for Loup River Public Power District in Columbus, Nebraska. He also served as Co-Chair of the Columbus Economic Council.

**Michelle Landers** spent the Spring of 2008 interning in Jefferson City for Representative Margaret Donnelly and over the summer interned for her campaign for Attorney General in the Democratic Primary. She will be a Sue Shear Fellow at this May's Women in Leadership Academy.

**Joe Van Amburg** spent the summer interning with the Kay Barnes for Congress campaign. He now attends law school at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

**Dan Hammond**, a sophomore political science major from Liberty, was appointed to a seat on the Model UN's International Court of Justice for the 2008 model conference this fall. There are only 15 judges on this court, and each school may only have one seat.

**Sarah Backhaus**, a freshman from Liberty, Mo., and **Dylan Clark**, a freshman from Maryland Heights, Mo., shared the tournament championship at the 26th Annual Novice Nationals Lincoln Douglas Debate, held March 14-16 at the University of West Florida, in Pensacola.

In parliamentary debate the team of Backhaus and Clark reached the semifinals of the tournament. Backhaus was ranked fifth speaker in the division.

### **John Andrew Crossett Scholarship Established**

This scholarship was established in 2007 by the generous contributions of Leo and Caroline Funk in honor of their grandson John Andrew (Andy) Crossett. Andy graduated Summa Cum Laude from Truman in May of 2005 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science. He credits the academic rigors of the political science major at Truman for having successfully prepared him for his pursuit of a law degree. In addition to his academics, Andy was also a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Beta Theta Pi, Pi Sigma Alpha and the men's golf team. The criteria in granting this scholarship are:

- Upperclassmen students majoring in political science
- Minimum 3.0 GPA
- Evidence of strong moral character and an interest in serving society as evidenced by involvement in religious, service and/or community organizations

