

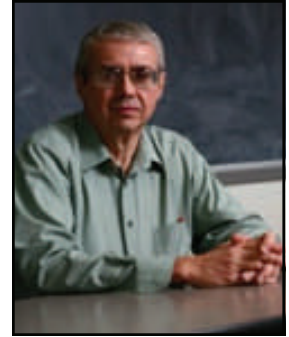
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL &
CULTURAL STUDIES

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Department of Political Science

TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY SUMMER 2010
rhagerty@truman.edu

Dear Alumni & Friends, Forty-one freshman will enter Truman this Fall declaring Political Science as their primary major. Another fifty-six freshmen have declared Political Science as a second major. Our primary majors enter with an average ACT score of 28.10, which is the highest of any entering class in the department's history. With about 6 to 7 transfer students also entering in the Fall, the department welcomes 104 new students into the program. I hope you enjoy our new department newsletter. [Stay in touch](#) by letting us know what you have been up to so that we may share it in the next newsletter. –Dr. Randy Hagerty, Chair



[Dr. Randy Hagerty, Chair](#)

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To share your life's journey (graduate school, honors, milestones, family, & email) in the next Alumni Notes then email us at rhagerty@truman.edu

'70's

William E. Jones '70 taught social science classes for 7 years before becoming a counselor. After two years of being a counselor he moved on to become a secondary principal. From there he enrolled at Southwest Missouri State University to earn a EDsp Degree in Superintendentcy, which he has done until June 30, 2010. Bill decided 40 years in education was enough and plans to retire at the end of this school year. Future plans are to visit family, friends, and to do some traveling. He thanks his education at the University for giving average people a chance to get an education and to have a rewarding life and a career.

Terry Loftus '72 retired in 2007 from Syracuse Schools adult refugee program. He worked for 30 years in job placement and training with refugees. Terry says that it was an interesting and rewarding career. He now enjoys retirement, travel, bicycling, kayaking, and hiking.

Gary Dennis '74 has been working in the recycling industry. He now lives in Cape Coral, Florida near Fort Myers. Gary is the General Manager of a new scrap yard that his company purchased in 2007. He works for Ferrous Processing & Trading Company headquar-

tered in Detroit, Michigan. The name of the company that he manages in Florida is FPT Fort Meyers, 3750 Veronica Shoemaker, PO Box 7587, Fort Myers, Florida 33911.

Donna (Newhouse) Gardner '77 continues to serve as the Chair of the Department of Education at William Jewell College. She reports that she is reasonably politically active and that her training at Truman has benefitted her career.

Louanne Streiff Danner '79 worked in state local and regional government for her first ten years out of college. Louanne has served in the Green Hills Regional Planning Commission, the Missouri Department of Economic Development, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. Community Development with the University of Missouri- Extension Program, The US Soil Conservation Service in Economic Development, and the Chillicothe, Missouri -Chamber of Commerce, the Chillicothe Economic Development Corporation, the Chillicothe Bonding Authority, and the Chillicothe Fine Arts Council. She currently and for the last 20 years is an active real estate sales agent with ERA Table Rock Realty in Branson, Missouri.

'80's

Frank Wendt

'80 works in commercial bankruptcy and insolvency. He has been named to "Super Lawyers" for Missouri and Kansas the last three years in that area.

Sue Crawford '89 was promoted to full professor at Creighton University beginning in academic year 2009-2010. She is just beginning her second sabbatical this summer. She recently joined the Creighton University Center for Health Services Research and Patient Safety (CHRP) as a program faculty member. CHRP brings together researchers from various medical professions and academic disciplines. Sue facilitates the inclusion of undergraduate students in research and currently serves as a project director for an Agency of Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) grant to study the ways in which rural communities can improve consumers' abilities to access and use health information. She also recently joined the editorial board for the *American Journal of Political Science*.

Steve Eiken '93 lives in Saint Paul, Minnesota, and is married to a native Minnesotan, Kari Benson. They have two girls,

Political Science Students Association Founded



Political Science Students Association enjoying a picnic with faculty

This year marked the founding of the Political Science Student Association, a student-initiated effort that focuses on offering support of all kinds to Political Science students. The PSSA provides students with resources useful to upcoming careers, advice and planning for the major, and fosters a sense of community within the major.

Last fall, we organized a picnic for both majors and professors. Later that semester, we wrote our organization's constitution and became an official organization with the Center for Student Involvement. With hot chocolate, hot cider, and treats.

This past spring, PSSA made T-shirts for sale for Political Science majors and fundraised with Domino's Pizza Cards to gain seed funds. Additionally, we hosted a forum for students interested in law school with former Truman State grad, and University of Chicago alum, Philip Christoffer-son, J.D. He gave a presentation on his experiences followed by a question and answer portion.

We also hosted a session targeting lower classmen to offer them advice on timing of classes and ideal order in which to take them. Lastly, PSSA challenged the History department in a softball game that was derailed to a future date.

This past year was an extremely productive one that established the Political Science Student Association and laid the groundwork for future events. In the future, PSSA hopes to continue to grow and serve Truman's Political Science students.



Political Science Graduates Honored at Spring 2010 Commencement



Lindsey Gill,
Outstanding Student
in Political Science

A number of political science graduates were honored for their outstanding achievements during the Spring 2010 commencement.

Those graduating with Department Honors in Political Science were: Kailey Burger, Cole Rakow,

Lindsey Gill, and Phillip Raine.

Lindsey Gill was also named the Outstanding Senior in Political Science.

Recipients for Departmental Honors must meet the following qualifications:

1. An overall Truman GPA of 3.65.
2. A GPA in the major of 3.75.
3. Leadership and pursuit of knowledge out of the classroom demonstrated by evidence in at least two of the following three categories
 - a. Presentation of research at an organized conference, such as Truman's Student Research Conference, a regional political science conference, or Truman's Women's Conference.
 - b. A significant off-campus learning experience, such as a study abroad or university sanctioned internship (generally this will be an experience of at least one semester / 12 hours).
 - c. Demonstrated excellence in a university activity, such as forensics or athletics, or in a university or community organization or activity.
4. Approval by the political science faculty.

Samantha (5) and Lillie (2). Steve is a consultant for Thomson Reuters focused on long-term care and disability policy for state and federal governments. His job ranges from producing data reports regarding Medicaid long-term care spending to helping states implement new programs to help people with autism.

Keisha Farmer-Smith '95 is currently completing her Ph.D. in public policy analysis at UIC. Her research explores how two different types of youth development programs use feminist standpoint theory to impact community work with adolescent urban females. She has a Masters degree in counseling and urban planning and has been a youth organizer and worker for the past eight years.

Mike Arnold '97 and his wife Jacy (Whitaker) Arnold welcomed new daughter Abigail to their family last July.

Julia Kitsmiller '99 was elected as President of the UMKC School of Law Alumni Association, and recently was made a partner at her law firm, Seyferth Blumenthal & Harris LLC.

Matthew Haggans '00 is a lawyer currently clerking for a federal district court judge in Brooklyn, New York. He will be returning to private practice with a firm in New York sometime in the fall of 2010. He is recently engaged and will be getting married sometime in 2011.

Ryan Kennedy '01 is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at the University of Houston. He recently had articles accepted in the *American Political Science Review* and in the *Journal of Politics*.

Karen (Callanan) Schneider '01 graduated from law school in 2005, and spent about two years at a large law firm in St. Louis. Now she works as a permanent judicial law clerk for Judge Kurt S. Odenwald of the Missouri Court of Appeals, Eastern District, in St. Louis. Before his appointment to the bench, Judge Odenwald was the former County Councilman for the 5th District of St. Louis County, where Karen reported news for a local newspaper prior to and while attending law school. Karen enjoys the flexible schedule of the court, especially now that she and her husband (a litigation attorney) welcomed their son, Ryan Joseph, into this world in December 2009.

Tyler Rauert '01 continues to work at the Near East South Asia Center at the National Defense University in DC. Tyler and his wife Cindi (also an '01 Truman grad) had a baby, Alena Grace Rauert, on 17th of September 2009.

Jessica Post '02 recently accepted a job at the Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee as the National Field Director and Political Director, and relocated to Washington, D.C. Her organization targets legislative chambers to win and maintain Democratic majorities.

Matthew Fails '04 finished his Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Missouri in July 2009. Since August 2009, he has been an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Oakland University in Rochester, Michigan. He teaches classes in Comparative Politics and the Politics of Development, and has had a good first year (but he reports that he is thankful for his first real faculty summer starting now!). Matt has also published articles in the journals *British Journal of Political Science*, *Political Research Quarterly* (co-authored with another TSU political science alum **Heather Nicole Pierce**, Class of 2004, and *Democratization*. His work email address is fails@oakland.edu.

Sean Bagniewski '05 was recently hired as an attorney with the policy development section of the Iowa Utilities Board. Earlier this year, he worked in the Iowa Governor's Office to develop state programs that would receive loan guarantees through the U.S. Department of Energy for renewable energy projects. He became engaged to **Vidhya Reddy**, Class of 2005, last August and they plan to get married in the spring of 2011. Vidhya continues to work at the Nyemaster law firm in Des Moines where she specializes in litigation, immigration law, and family law.

Stephanie (Amick) Bell '05 has graduated from law school at Mizzou and completed her Master of Public Administration from the Truman School of Public Affairs. She is an associate at Blitz, Bardgett & Deutsch, focusing in the areas of government regulation and legislative practice. She resides in Jefferson City, with her husband, Chris Bell, Class of 2005.

Sarah Brown '05 is currently living and working in Washington, DC. After graduating from the Johns Hopkins Institute for Policy Studies with a Masters in Public Policy in 2007, She accepted an appointment as a Presidential Management Fellow with the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Sara says that the fellowship was a fantastic experience and highly recommends the program to any poli sci students interested in government service who are planning to go on for an advanced degree. It gave her the opportunity to work with FHA in a consulting role at the height of the mortgage crisis, to spend a few months on detail at the Office of Management and Budget, and to work closely with senior officials throughout the Department. After finishing her fellowship last summer she settled into a permanent position as a special assistant to HUD's Budget Director. She says that while working in the civil service does have its frustrations that it has also been extremely fulfilling. Sarah anticipates that we will find her in Washington and at HUD for many years to come.

Andy Crossett '05 works in the real estate group at the KC office of Lathrop & Gage (law firm). He married this past June and still lives in Blue Springs, Missouri.

Courtney Radtke '06 graduated from law school this May, is taking the Colorado bar exam this July, and is getting married to Neal McConomy (Truman alumn 2004) in August.

Christopher Steffe '06 graduated from Drake University Law School with a J.D. in May. He was awarded first place (as selected by the Iowa Supreme Court and Drake faculty) in the Drake University Law School Writing Competition and will have his article, *DART Dodges Free Exercise, Hits Free Speech*, published this summer in the *Iowa Lawyer*, a monthly magazine that goes out to all members of the Iowa bar.

Tanya (Horvath) Maerz '07 began a dual degree program at the University of Missouri in Columbia after graduating from Truman She is currently in her second year at the School of Law and will graduate with a JD/MPA in May 2011. Tanya has clerked for Johnston Greene, a law firm in the heart of downtown Chicago, Illinois and will be a summer associate at Husch Blackwell Sanders this summer in St. Louis, Missouri. Tanya recently married Andrew K. Maerz, also a 2007 graduate of Truman State University and a current Doctoral student in Chemistry at the University of Missouri.

Keith Schnakenberg '07 just finished his first year in the doctoral program in political science at Washington University in St. Louis.

Summer Experiences



Michael Dijak (2013) has been working with Vector Marketing, a national sales and marketing company since May 2009. He was recently promoted to Branch Manager and will be opening and running his own sales office in West Des Moines, IA for the summer. He will be the sole entrepreneur in charge of that office this summer.

Michael Baharaeen (2013) is interning for

U.S. Congressman Sam Graves from the Sixth Congressional District of Missouri for two months this summer in his Washington, D.C. office. This will be his second consecutive summer working in this office.

Kristin Marshall (2012) is interning with Senator Claire McCaskill from Missouri this summer in DC.

Missouri Government Internship

Students will spend the spring semester of the academic year in Jefferson City working with a state representative, a state senator, in the Governor's office, or in some other top level of state government. Students will receive a stipend of \$440 a month to defray their living expenses. Students earn 15 credit hours for this experience

Tawanda Kanhema Honored At Model UN



Political Science Major Tawanda Kanhema won the "Outstanding Delegate Award for Exceptional Representation" at the American Model United Nations Conference in November. Tawanda represented Namibia at the competition.

Diplomacy and negotiation are at the heart of Model United Nations (Model U.N.)- a simulation in which

students assume the identities of diplomats of various member states of the U.N. Participation in Model U.N. provides students with a practical and fun experience that teaches valuable skills. As students prepare for the simulation, they gain in-depth knowledge of the country they represent, and

of the organizational structure and policy-making processes of the U.N. The simulation itself helps students to gain skills in negotiation and communication, while also learning parliamentary procedure.

Students may obtain up to 3 hours of course credit for participation in Model U.N.

Ryan Mueller Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa

Ryan Walker Mueller (2011) was inducted this last academic year into Truman's Delta Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest Liberal Arts and Sciences Honors Society. Ryan is pictured receiving his award from Dr. Donahue, President Delta of Missouri Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa.



Faculty Noteables

Dr. Paul Parker now serves as the associate editor of the *Law and Politics Book Review*, which is sponsored by the Law and Courts section of the American Political Science Association.

Dr. Randy Hagerty was one of three Truman faculty members chosen in April to join Omicron Delta Kappa's Faculty Hall of Fame. He and Dr. Candy Young now both represent the Department in the Hall. In March Dr. Hagerty was named the Distinguished Faculty Advisor for Circle K by the Missouri-Arkansas District of Kiwanis. This past spring he was also elected to another three-year team as department chair.

Dr. John Quinn was awarded Walker and Doris Allen Fellowship for Faculty Excellence in Spring 2010. Dr. Quinn received a sabbatical for academic year 2009-10 to work on a book on African politics.

He was promoted to the rank of Full Professor in Fall 2009. Dr. Quinn was also active at a number of profes-



Dr. Quinn, Professor of Political Science

sional conferences during the year. At the International Studies Association, Mid-West Conference in St. Louis in November he presented his paper "The Mineral Resource Course, Majority State Ownership, and Lower Growth in Africa" (with Ryan Conway). At the ISA conference he also served as chair and discussant for the panel on International Trade, Foreign Aid, and Human Development.

Also, at the annual meeting of the African Studies Association in New Orleans in November he presented another paper entitled "Majority State

Ownership and the Mineral and Oil Resource Course in Africa 1966-2000" (With Ryan Conway). He also produced a number of professional articles, book chapters, and other contributions:

"**Principal-Agent Theory**," (forthcoming) in John Ishiyama and Marijke Breuning (eds.) *21st Century Political Science: A Reference Handbook*. Newbury Park, CA: Sage Publications.

"**International Studies Minor in Practice: Program Offerings and Student Choices**." With Marijke Breuning. *Journal of Political Science Education* 7, 2 (forthcoming, 2011).

"**African Foreign Policies**" In Robert Denmark et. al., eds. *The International Studies Compendium Project*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell, 2010.

"When You Cannot Find the Perfect Match: Using the Accumulated Most Similar Design Case Study." *Journal of Political Science Education* 5, 3 (July-September 2009): 250-267.

2010 Undergraduate Research Conference



Merits of the Merit Plan

Daniel N. Hammond

Dr. John J. Quinn, Faculty Mentor

Islam and Democracy in Asia: Friends or Foes

Syed Muhammad M. Zaidi

Dr. James T. Przybylski, Faculty Mentor



Retrenchment Budgeting in Theory and Practice

Cole E. Rakow

Dr. Candy C. Young, Faculty Mentor

LSAT Prep Workshop Offered First Block

**When: Fall 2010 First Block
August 26-October 13
Tuesdays and Thursdays
6:00-8:30 p.m.**

Instructor: Dr. Stuart Vorkink. Improve your LSAT score just in time for the first Law School Admissions Test of the Fall on October 9th, 2010.

To Register: Go to the Cashier's Window located on the first floor of McClain Hall and pay for the \$350 the course. Or contact Dr. Hagerty for early assistance and registration. Take your receipt to the Registrar's Office and they will enroll you.



Holly Martin-Whitacre, graduate student, and Kristin Flannigan, Secretary for Political Science at Adair County Voter Registration Day

TRUMAN ON

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If you know a student who would like to learn more about Truman State University, e-mail his or her name and address to admissions@truman.edu

THANK YOU
ALUMNI
FOR YOUR
CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR
NEWSLETTER

Make gifts online at giving.truman.edu. Indicate Political Science under Academics. Gifts go towards student organizations, travel, and research.

Greg Thompson '07 finished his first year in the Poli Sci Ph.D. program at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. His focus is in American politics with an emphasis on the political and economic development of healthcare policy. Also, he is getting married on June 5th to Jacquelyn McCord, who graduated from the psychology department at Truman in 2006.

Michael GastonBell '10 has decided to attend the University of Indiana Maurer School of Law, and he was awarded a

30,000 dollars per year academic scholarship. He was also accepted into Case Western, Marquette (with a \$24,000 per year scholarship), and placed on the waiting list at the University of Virginia, Duke, and at the University of Illinois. He intends to study corporate law at Indiana.

Christopher Reid '10 presented a paper at last November's International Studies Association Midwest conference. He was accepted to a Master's program at SIUC and Ph.D. programs at Purdue,

Mizzou, UMSL, and Texas Tech. He will be attending Mizzou this Fall, pursuing a Ph.D. in Comparative Politics, with an \$11,700 Graduate Assistantship and the \$10,000 Gus T. Ridgel Fellowship (both renewable for 5 years).