

Providence College

Politicus

A Letter from the Chair: Dr. Susan McCarthy

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Welcome! For many of us, this is a semester of new beginnings. It is certainly one for me, since I just recently took over as Chair of the Political Science Department. It is also a new beginning for our newest faculty member, Dr. Jeffrey Pugh, who comes to us from the Ph.D. program at Johns Hopkins University. Dr. Pugh specializes in Latin American politics and conflict resolution, and this semester he is also teaching PSC 101. Although no one can ever replace our now-retired friend and colleague Bob Trudeau, Dr. Pugh will be leading the Model OAS course that Dr. Trudeau taught for many years.

This academic year has gotten off to a busy start, both in and

out of class. Members of the department have co-sponsored and participated in a mock debate on Health Care Reform for Constitution Day, a Gubernatorial Debate on environmental issues, and several movie screenings and public lectures. Watch for upcoming events including the Pi Sigma Alpha pie-baking contest at our holiday party.

This fall we have a new group of Forand Research Scholars studying a variety of local issues, from emergency management to education reform. Forand Research Scholarships are given out each spring to juniors wanting to research political and policy issues of local concern during their senior year. A formal announcement about the program will be



sent early next semester to all students in the Class of 2012. If doing local research (and getting a stipend to do it) appeals to you, stop by my office or talk to one of our current Forand Scholars about the program.

A Letter from the President of Pi Sigma Alpha...



The Executive Board of the Epsilon Chi Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha has been busy planning several events for the greatly anticipated year ahead. Following the tradition, Pi Sigma Alpha will be sponsoring the Pie Baking Contest. The event will be held during the Political Science Holiday Party on December 10th from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in McPhails. We encourage Pi Sigma Alpha members as well as Poli Sci students/Faculty to enter the contest. There are two pie baking categories, traditional and non-traditional, and prizes will be given to the winners. The Executive Board has also been planning an exciting spring event called *Kickoff to your Political*

Career. The event will be held on March 2nd in McPhails and will feature a panel of speakers from the Office of Career Services and the Law department, as well as active, young alumni who have careers in the field. The panel discussion will be a great opportunity for Political Science majors to start planning for summer internships and jobs after graduation. Another greatly anticipated spring event is the annual induction ceremony which will be held on Saturday, April 16th from 4:00-6:00 p.m. in '64 Hall. In order to be inducted into the honor society, juniors must have a 3.5 area GPA and completed six Political Science classes (18 credits); seniors must

have a 3.4 area GPA and completed six Political Science classes (18 credits). Letters have already been sent to the students who have met the requirements to become a member this Fall, please check your friar boxes. There is a one-time membership fee of \$65.00, either cash or a check made payable to Providence College should be delivered to Emerald Lopes, Howley Hall 318 by 3:00 pm on November 12, 2010. New fall inductees will be acknowledged at the Holiday Party.

Sincerely,
Sara Beth Labanara
President, Pi Sigma Alpha

PC Students who Contribute to RI Campaign Efforts Gain "Hands-on" Experience



Jenna Borkoski '12

"My real life experiences have allowed me to grasp classroom materials much better."

-Sara Beth Labanara

Election time is the busiest time for any campaign. Providence College Political Science students Sara Beth Labanara and Jenna Borkoski know just how busy these campaigns are as they are interning with the Republican gubernatorial candidate John Robitaille and the Rhode Island Republican Party election campaigns respectively. The numerous responsibilities delegated to these two students have proven to be tremendous "outside-the-classroom" learning experiences and extremely worthwhile.

Labanara works as the Campaign Scheduler for Republican endorsed gubernatorial candidate, John Robitaille. Her duties include providing Robitaille with a detailed itinerary each day, setting up meetings and appointments with high profile individuals in Rhode Island's private and public sectors, and making

strategic decisions about the candidate's schedule based on the number of people he will be meeting, amount of media coverage and location. Labanara has also had the task of preparing Robitaille for televised debates and forums.

Borkoski has been an intern with the Rhode Island Republican Party since last March. Now, in preparation for the looming election, her duties have expanded to updating the RIGOP website by adding new calendar events and press releases as well as writing potential phone scripts and emails for the RI Clean State campaign. Her responsibilities also include assisting the Volunteer Coordinator for John Loughlin's Congressional campaign with yard sign deliveries and volunteer scheduling.

Labanara says that her internship has helped her to see firsthand how a campaign is built from the ground up. "It's been interesting to take what I've learned working with John Robitaille and apply it to my political science classes, such as Comparative State Politics with Dr. Hyde," says Labanara. "My real life experiences have allowed me to grasp classroom materials much better." Borkoski establishes that the connection between her internship and her classroom experiences

goes the other way as well, as she states that "many of [her] political science classes have required [her] to clearly articulate a point of view [she] feels strongly about." She believes that "as a result, [her] input and opinions are better respected at the RIGOP headquarters because [she has] the confidence to stand for what [she] truly believe[s] in is right for the direction of the party." She credits her American Government course for helping her gain a knowledge base in campaign finance laws and electoral procedures that have directly applied to her internship experience.

Both students feel that their internship experiences have helped them prepare for their futures as the opportunities have offered them a glimpse into the "real world." Labanara, a senior at PC, states that her internship has motivated her to want to work on several more campaigns in the future and perhaps pursue a master's degree in public policy. Both students have been thrilled to play such an active role in a campaign during election time and have been very pleased to be treated as an equal in the offices and have learned a tremendous amount.

-Kathleen Walsh '11



Gubernatorial Candidate John Robitaille and Sara Beth Labanara '11

Rosa Clemente

Rosa Clemente is a Black Puerto Rican social and hip hop activist, grassroots organizer, and journalist. During the National Elections in 2008, she ran as a Vice President candidate for the Green Party. On September 29, 2010, Providence College's Board of Multicultural Student Activities (BMSA) invited her to speak on our campus. From discussions of the current state of our economy to the social construction of race, Clemente provided the audience with insightful information about our nation. She asserted that in order to solve some of the social problems today, we need to work on the reformation of the hip hop political agenda. Through the inspiration of hip hop, we will be able to address issues of HIV/AIDS, education, housing,

gender rights, racial discrimination, healthcare and other concerns that affect our society.

ROSA CLEMENTE
HIP HOP ACTIVIST
2008 GREEN PARTY
VICE PRESIDENT CANDIDATE
WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 29
7PM-9PM
64 HALL
SPONSORED BY
BMSA

Rosa Clemente talked about many provocative issues that concern the issue of whiteness and the impact of the dominant culture in our soci-

ety. We live in a country where a black woman makes three cents for every white man's one dollar. The median income of a white family is \$100,000, whereas blacks and Latino homes only bring in a median of \$45,000. Clemente encourages students to engage in organizing, journalism, teaching, art, or any form of expression in order to fight against unsettling statistics as such. By doing so, America will become one step closer to reaching the equality that has been promised to all people within the frameworks of our Constitution. Clemente is a powerful and enlightening speaker who truly challenges the social norms of our country. It was a gift to have been able to hear her speak!

- Dana Greenidge '11

2010 Gubernatorial Candidates Debate at PC

With election day quickly approaching on November 2nd, 2010, voters have been able to track the candidates running for Governor of Rhode Island thanks to a series of debates, one of which was held at Providence College. On September 28th, our very own 64th Hall hosted the 2010 Gubernatorial Environmental Debate and featured the four candidates currently running for Governor of Rhode Island: Kenneth Block, Frank Caprio, Lincoln Chafee, and John Robitaille. The event was co-sponsored by the Environmental Council of Rhode Island along with the Providence College Political Science Department and the Board of Programmers. The debate was more of a structured question and answer session, where

questions were pre-approved and addressed on a rotational basis among the candidates. Each candidate had an opportunity to respond to a variety of concerning environmental issues and voice their individual priorities each candidate planned to attend to if elected.

A variety of topics were covered such as the Rhode Island energy strategy, solid waste management, transportation, and the state's drinking water infrastructure. Some topics and questions were particularly stimulating; for instance, Moderate candidate Ken Block took a jab at Republican John Robitaille when discussion about environmental protection and economic agenda ensued as Block highlighted that global warming is in fact happen-

ing! Candidates had the opportunity to share personal experiences that shed light on their environmental knowledge awareness. Independent Lincoln Chafee referred to his experience as former Senator of Rhode Island and Mayor of Warwick while Democrat Frank Caprio expressed gratitude for experience as Rhode Island's General Treasurer.

Each candidate was willing and able to share his future legislative plans as potential Governor of Rhode Island and discuss options about possibly ameliorating some of the local issues unique to Rhode Island along with the more serious, threat-posing issues of our nation.
 - Amanda Zefi '10 and Johara Hall '12

Spring 2011 Course Offerings:

PSC101	Politics	T,R/1:00-2:15	Rick Battistoni
PSC101	Politics	M,W,F/11:30-12:20	Neil Romans
PSC101	Politics	M,W,F/12:30-1:20	Jeff Pugh
PSC101	Politics	M,R/10:00-11:15	Douglas Blum
PSC101	Politics	T,R/11:30-12:45	Douglas Blum
PSC102	Empirical Political Analysis	M,W,F/1:30-2:20	James Carlson
PSC102	Empirical Political Analysis	M,W,F/2:30-3:20	James Carlson
PSC102	Empirical Political Analysis	T,W,F/10:30-11:20	Mark Hyde
PSC201	American Government and Politics	M,R/8:30-9:45	Joe Cammarano
PSC201	American Government and Politics	M,R/2:30-3:45	William Hudson
PSC205	Comparative Politics	M,R/8:30-9:45	Paola Cesarini
PSC207	International Relations	T,R/11:30-12:45	Ruth Ben-Artzi
PSC207	International Relations	T,R/1:00-2:15	Ruth Ben-Artzi
PSC312	Civil Liberties	T,W,F/10:30-11:20	Neil Romans
PSC318	American Public Policy	T,R/11:30-12:45	William Hudson
PSC321	Chinese Politics	M,R/10:00-11:15	Susan McCarthy
PSC324	Gvmt/Pol Russia/Frmr Soviet Union	T,R/4:00-5:15	Douglas Blum
PSC333	European Politics	M,R/10:00-11:15	Paola Cesarini
PSC342	Modern Political Theory	T,R/2:30-3:45	Mary Bellhouse
PSC342	Modern Political Theory	T,R/4:00-5:15	Mary Bellhouse
PSC348	American Political Theory	T,W,F/9:30-10:20	Neil Romans
PSC380	Gender and Politics	M/2:30-5:00	Mary Bellhouse
PSC416	Race and Politics in the Americas	T,R/1:00-2:15	Anthony Affigne
PSC419	Public Program Evaluation	T,R/1:00-2:15	Mark Hyde
PSC425	Mass Media and Politics	M,W,F/11:30-12:20	James Carlson
PSC450	Political Science Internship	R/4:00-6:30	Mark Hyde
PSC470	ST: Pol Thought Sci Fi 1930-2008	T/2:30-5:00	Anthony Affigne
PSC470	ST: Model OAS		Jeff Pugh
PSC470	ST: Justice Across Borders	M/2:30-5:00	Edward Cleary
PSC470	ST: Int'l Conflict Resolution	M,W,F/1:30-2:20	Jeff Pugh
PSC470	ST: Global Politics of Religion	M/4:00-6:30	Susan McCarthy
PSC470	ST: Race, Gender & Pub Policy	R/2:30-5:00	Julia Jordan-Zachery
PSC470	ST: Film & Int'l Relations	R/4:00-6:30	Ruth Ben-Artzi
PSC470	ST: Faith, Politics & Public Svc	M/2:30-5:00	Joseph Cammarano
PSC481	SemCompPol: Transitional Justice	T/2:30-5:00	Paola Cesarini
PSC489	Capstone: Ecological Crisis and Response	R/2:30-5:00	Anthony Affigne
PSC489	Capstone: Global Political Economy	M/4:00-6:30	Ruth Ben-Artzi
PSC489	Capstone: America's Fiscal Future	T/2:30-5:00	William Hudson

Special Topics: International Conflict Resolution, PSC 470 004, Dr. Jeff Pugh

In this course, students will gain an understanding of the major theories explaining international conflict and will consider a variety of approaches for seeking peace. In particular, the class will examine how issues of power and identity affect conflict and peacemaking. Building on a theoretical exploration of realism, liberalism, social psychology, and other theories that provide competing explanations of war, the course will explore specific 'roots of conflict' such as resource competition, the security dilemma, primordial or constructed ethnic tensions, and colonial/post-colonial domination and oppression. The bulk of the course will analyze and compare different interventions (and the actors that put them into practice) that seek to prevent, manage, or transform violent conflict. These include negotiation and mediation, peacekeeping interventions, sanctions and humanitarian assistance, and truth and reconciliation commissions, among others. Students will apply these concepts through study of particular cases such as Israel/Palestine, Rwanda, Bosnia, El Salvador, South Africa, and others, and through participation in an international negotiation simulation.

Special Topics: The Global Politics of Religion, PSC 470 005 Dr. McCarthy

This course explores the intersection of religion and politics around the world. It examines the influence of religious beliefs, identities, institutions, and practices on politics – and vice-versa. In doing so it considers what religion is, and how it informs political phenomena such as state-building, nationalism, revolution, democratization, gender politics, and challenges to authoritarian rule. Some weeks we focus on "negative" ways in which religion and politics intertwine; however, we also consider how religion promotes social capital and grass-roots political participation. Both mainstream faiths and more esoteric religious movements will be examined; countries studied include South Africa, Japan, Taiwan, Israel, Colombia, Algeria, Iran, and China.

Special Topics: Film & International Relations, PSC 470 007 Dr. Ben-Artzi

This course traces global political and economic developments from the late 19th to the 21st century. It aims to analyze political developments through a multi-disciplinary, multi-approach lens. We will use historical, theoretical and empirical approaches to study political and economic issues through the perspective of film. While we will follow some standard social sciences readings and analytical tools, we use film to deepen our understanding and inform our sensibilities: Films convey a "feel" for a certain period, places, and events. The way these issues are structured into the narrative, the tradeoffs filmmakers have to make, and the way films are shot affect our 'memory' or understanding of these events. Their choices then have a profound impact on the narrative of our history and the way we view global political and economic phenomenon.