

# Politicus

PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

SPRING 2011

## A Letter from the Chair: Dr. Susan McCarthy

### Inside this issue:

Egypt-Tunisia Panel	1&3
Pi Sigma Alpha Update	2
Kickoff to Your Polisci Career	2
Mayor Angel Taveras	3
Upcoming Events	4
Course Listings	5

Happy Spring! Like me, I'm sure all of you are glad that winter is behind us and warmer weather is in our future (if not our present). Of course, this means that the end of the semester is fast approaching, and that it will soon be time to say farewell to our 2011 graduates. To our majors and minors in the Class of 2011, please note that we will be holding our annual Senior Reception on Friday, May 13th, from 3-5 pm in Aquinas Lounge. The reception is a great opportunity to meet the parents and siblings of our seniors, and it's also an event where we recognize academic excellence and service to the department. Formal invitations to the reception will be sent out shortly.

As we are well into the second half of the spring semester, it will also soon be time to register for Fall 2011

courses. All students should make arrangements soon to meet with their advisers to discuss schedules and get your alternate pins.

In addition, all juniors (Class of 2011) are eligible to apply for scholarships offered through the Forand Research Scholars program. The Forand Research Scholarship supports community-based research on a public policy or other political issue of relevance to Rhode Island and Southern New England. If you are interested, please contact me for more details; a formal announcement about the program has been emailed to all PSC majors in the class of 2012. This year we have five Forand Research Scholars, who will present the results of their research on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 pm in Harkins Hall, LL13. I encourage anyone interested



in applying for the Forand Research Scholarship to attend.

Finally, we have a number of programs and events scheduled during the remainder of the semester, including the annual Pi Sigma Alpha banquet and a Symposium on Peacebuilding – see inside for further details. I hope all of you have a happy and productive Spring!

## Collaborative Egypt-Tunisia Panel: Varied Expertise Leads to Great Success

On February 16, 2011, the Middle East Student Association held a discussion panel on the crisis in Egypt and Tunisia. With the varied expertise of three speakers, Paola Cesarini Ph.D. and Ruth Ben-Artzi Ph.D. of our own Political Science department, as well as Margaret Manchester Ph.D., department of History, the discussion was rich and offered an inter-disciplinary perspective. The collaborative efforts

of the three speakers provided an in-depth examination of the events taking place in Egypt and Tunisia as well as gave a historical background and put the events in a political context. The event was well-attended with over 120 students present, many of whom were Political Science majors.

According to Dr. Cesarini, the key to the success of the panel was

the division of labor between the three speakers, each discussing an important and unique aspect of the situation in the Middle East. Dr. Ben-Artzi opened the conversation with a historical background of Egypt and Tunisia and the connection to what is currently going on in these areas. Dr. Cesarini then put the events in the context of Democratic theory by examining what... **Continued on Page 3**

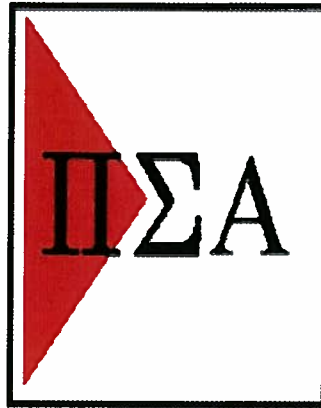
## A Letter from the President of Pi Sigma Alpha: Sara Beth Labanara

The Epsilon Chi Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the Providence College chapter of the national political science honor society, has been busy planning a number of events for the end of the semester. With our board, consisting of President Sara Beth Labanara, Vice President Matthew McCabe, Treasurer Caitlin Peruccio and Secretary Megan Lagreca, as well as faculty advisor Dr. Mark Hyde, we will be hosting an induction ceremony on Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> and continuing the tradition of administering the best paper competition.

Our induction ceremony will welcome the new members of the 2011/2012 class, as well as the returning class of 2011 Pi Sigma Alpha members and their families to '64 hall to receive their certificates and graduation chords. It will feature a surprise guest speaker, a recent PC alumni and member of Pi Sigma Alpha. Inductees and their families will also be treated to a catered dinner during the event.

The results of the best paper competition will also be announced at the induction ceremony. This is a

competition that is held annually for all Political Science majors and minors who submit a paper they have written during the last year. The papers are judged anonymously by a board of faculty who volunteer for the task and



decide on the top three papers. The winners are invited to attend the ceremony and will receive cash awards for their winning papers.

Congratulations to class of 2011 Pi Sigma Alpha members: Alice Aieskoll, Julie Antonovich, Lauren

Ballback, Stephen Bennett, Alexandra BetGeorge, Charlotte Callahan, Carolyn Ciciarelli, Mark Costello, Amanda Devaney, Elizabeth Dunbar, Amanda Flood, Kyle Gill, Daniel Hicks, Keely Hopkins, John Keller, Mark Kraics, Sara Beth Labanara, Megan Lagreca, Tara LePage, Matthew McCabe, Jennifer McElroy, Elizabeth McNamara, William Mastrianna, III, Carmine Perrotti, Caitlin Peruccio, Kiley Phelan, Michael Regan, Daniel Roe, Andrew Slom, Meaghan Schlosstein, Lauren Swidler, Salvatore Tripoli, III, Danielle Turcotte, Peter Van Name, Benjamin Wahrer, Ross Walendziak, Kathleen Walsh, Melissa Wirths, Kenneth Woodland, Amanda Zefi and class of 2012 members: Kelly Branham, Sarah Davey, Erica Devine, Gregory DiCiancia, Nadine Ebersole, Meghan Garry, Johara Hall, Kari Hardgrove, David Lachance, Kathryn McCann, Elizabeth Moore, Carly Morrison and Nathan Ricci.

Welcome to Pi Sigma Alpha! We hope you find continued success in your studies and we look forward to seeing you at the induction ceremony on April 16<sup>th</sup>!

## Pi Sigma Alpha Hosts First Annual *Kick Off To Your Political Career*

On Wednesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in McPhail's, the Epsilon Chi Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha hosted its first annual event called "Kick Off To Your Political Career." The event was sponsored by the Political Science Department and the Public Administration Program. Featured panelists at the event included Patti Goff, from the Office of Career Services, who touched on resume writing, internships and networking in order to find a job in government or politics. Pro-

fessor Patricia McLaughlin spoke next about careers in the legal field and the importance of finding a career that is enjoyable. The event also consisted of an alumni panel of young and talented Political Science graduates. Michael Fenton '09 spoke about his experience serving as a city council member in Springfield, Massachusetts. Melanie Hebert '10 spoke about various internships and her current position as a lobbyist at Rasky Baerlein in Boston, Massachusetts. Also, Mark Rhodes '08

spoke about his experience working for the mayor of Providence while he was a student at PC and his current position working for Rhode Island General Treasurer, Gina Raimondo. Lastly, Vimala Phongsavanh '08 spoke about her elected position on the Woonsocket, Rhode Island school board. Close to thirty students attended the event and received valuable career advice as well as the opportunity to network.

*Sara Beth Labanara '11*



## Egypt-Tunisia Panel (Continued from Page 1)

makes a successful, lasting democracy, as well as by looking at historical trends that have taken place elsewhere in the world. Dr. Cesarini observed that the United States needs to be "very sober about the international role," and noted that "home-grown interventions tend to be much more successful." Dr. Manchester closed with a history of the United States relations in the Middle East and discussed external interventions. The cross-department collaboration was extremely successful as "the three panelist's subjects complimented one

another very nicely," said Dr. Ben-Artzi.

According to Dr. Manchester, "the panel provided an opportunity to air concerns on large, important issues that pertain very much to each of us in terms of future relations between nations as well as world security." Dr. Manchester, Dr. Ben-Artzi and Dr. Cesarini were all very pleased with the strong turnout of the panel and are all in favor of doing more of these discussions. Dr. Ben-Artzi commented on the great turnout within the Political Science department and

noted how "a number of Political Science students were present, recognizing the importance of these world events and their relevance to the topics studied within the Political Science field."

"We had a really wonderful, productive conversation that displayed the high degree of interest at PC in what's going on," said Dr. Cesarini, "and this indicates that perhaps we should do more of these teaching venues outside of the classroom where students are engaged in discussions."

*Kathleen Walsh '11*

## Providence Mayor Angel Taveras at PC

Thanks to PC Democrats and the Organization of Latin American Students (OLAS), on Monday March 7<sup>th</sup>, Mayor Angel Taveras visited Providence College and spoke to about thirty students and residents of the surrounding neighborhood. Mayor Taveras is no stranger to the media of late. National papers like the New York Times, Washington Post and the USA Today have covered Mayor Taveras' recent dealings with the enormous budget deficit that he has been elected to fix. Mayor Taveras has recently given lay-off notifications to all of the Providence Public School teachers. The city of Providence is currently 109 million dollars in debt, while running on a 640 million dollar budget. When discussing the significance of the budget deficit, Mayor Taveras showed his sincerity when he said, "I care deeply...and I believe I can make a difference." The Mayor also showed his ability to ascend politics when he said, "the problems our city faces are too big to play

politics."

To close his talk, Mayor Taveras relayed his sentiment that it is us, the students, that represent the future. "Young people change the course of world history," according to Taveras. During his mayoral campaign, Taveras talked about a sophomore at Brown University who volunteered and ran his East-Side operation. Using this example, the Mayor drew analogies to

his history as a pro-active, politically involved college student when he attended Harvard. The Mayor encouraged us students to continue to be involved in the things we care deeply about. Whether it is political or non-political, Mayor Taveras quoted Dr. King in saying, "Our lives end the day we become silent about the things we care about."

*Justin Park Smith '12*





# Upcoming Political Science Events and Sponsorships

## **Symposium on Peace Building - Presentation by Reverend Nelson Johnson – Video “Closer to the Truth”**

Thursday, April 28, 2011, 6:00pm – 10:00pm,  
Slavin '64 Hall

Reverend Nelson Johnson, an initiator of the Greensboro Truth and Community Reconciliation Process and pastor of Faith Community Church, Greensboro, NC will be giving a talk and showing his video “Closer to the Truth”. Rev. Johnson has served as the primary visionary and organizer of the Greensboro Truth and Community Reconciliation Process addressing the unspoken and festering racial tension in the Greensboro community. The GTCRP has received national and international recognition, including the Ford Foundation’s Leadership for a Changing World Award, the Faith and Politics Institute of Washington, DC’s “Beloved Community Award,” and the Purpose Prize Award from Civic Ventures. Rev. Johnson has also been recognized by the Archbishop Desmond Tutu for his visionary leadership. Rev. Johnson characterizes his work as a new “experiment in authentic democracy,” an effort to craft a new direction for addressing difficult, stubborn problems of inequities within our social fabric.

## **Forand Research Scholar Presentations**


Tuesday, April 26, 2011, 6:00pm – 8:30pm, Harkins  
Hall LL13

The Political Science Forand Scholars (Class of 2011) will be presenting their end-of-the-year research presentations. All Political Science majors and minors are encouraged to attend, especially Juniors who are considering applying for next year’s Forand Research Scholar grants. Presentations will be by Joshua Cordeiro, Daniel Hicks, Carmine Perrotti, Lauren Swidler and Danielle Turcotte.

## **Political Science and Public Administration Senior Reception**

Friday, May 13, 2011, 3:00pm – 5:00pm,  
Aquinas Lounge

The Political Science Department and Public Administration Program will hold the annual Senior Reception for graduating major and minors in the class of 2011. All graduating majors, minors and their families are invited to attend the reception. We will honor all graduating students, including student workers, Pi Sigma Alpha members and students with the top 10 GPA’s. Invitations will be sent via email and Friar box with an RSVP date of May 5, 2011.





## Course Scheduling—Fall 2011

Course Number	Course Title	Limit	Instructor	Times	Days
PSC 101 001	Politics (Crosslist GST 101)	0	Richard Battistoni	10:00 - 11:15	M,R
PSC 101 002	Politics	18	Ruth Ben-Artzi	10:00 - 11:15	M,R
PSC 101 003	Politics	18	Ruth Ben-Artzi	1:00 - 2:15	T,R
PSC 101 004	Politics	18	William Hudson	2:30 - 3:45	M,R
PSC 101 005	Politics	18	Neil Romans	9:30-10:20	T,W,F
PSC 101 006	Politics	18	Neil Romans	10:30 - 11:20	T,W,F
PSC 102 001	Empirical Analysis	25	STAFF	8:30-9:20	T,W,F
PSC 102 001	Empirical Analysis	25	STAFF	9:30-10:20	T,W,F
PSC 102 003	Empirical Analysis	25	Mark Hyde	10:30 - 11:20	T,W,F
PSC 201 001	American Government and Politics	25	STAFF	8:30 - 9:45	M,R
PSC 201 002	American Government and Politics	25	STAFF	11:30-12:20	M,W,F
PSC 205 002	Comparative Politics	25	Susan McCarthy	10-11:15	M,R
PSC 207 001	International Relations	25	Jeffrey Pugh	11:30-12:20	M,W,F
PSC 207 002	International Relations	25	Jeffrey Pugh	12:30-1:20	M,W,F
PSC 211 001	Public Administration	25	STAFF	1:30-2:20	M,W,F
PSC 217 001	Environmental Politics	25	Anthony Affigne	11:30 - 12:45	T,R
PSC 303 001	Urban Politics in the U.S. (Crosslist BLS)	15	Anthony Affigne	1:00 - 2:15	T,R
PSC 305 001	The Legislative Process	20	STAFF	12:30-1:20	M,W,F
PSC 306 001	The American Presidency	20	STAFF	1:30 - 2:20	M,W,F
PSC 311 001	American Constitutional Law	20	Neil Romans	12:30-1:20	M,W,F
PSC 315 001	Elections & Electoral Behavior	20	STAFF	11:30-12:20	M,W,F
PSC 316 001	Parties & Interest Groups	20	Mark Hyde	11:30-12:45	T,R
PSC 329 001	Contemporary Middle East Politics	20	Ruth Ben-Artzi	2:30-5:00	M
PSC 336 001	Contemporary Latin American Politics	20	Jeffrey Pugh	1:30-2:20	M,W,R
PSC 343 001	Contemporary Political Theory (Crosslist GST)	19	Mary Bellhouse	1:00-2:15	T,R
PSC 343 002	Contemporary Political Theory (Crosslist GST)	19	Mary Bellhouse	2:30-3:45	T,R
PSC 380 001	Gender and Politics (Crosslist WMS 380, BLS)	14	Julia Jordan-Zachery	2:30-5:00	R
PSC 382 001	Culture and Politics: The 60s (Crosslist AMS)	18	Mary Bellhouse	2:30-5:00	M
PSC 382 LAB	Culture and Politics: The 60s (Cross AMS): Film Lab	18	Mary Bellhouse	5:00-6:30	M
PSC 450 001	Political Science Internship	20	Mark Hyde	4:00 - 6:30	R
PSC 470 001	Special Topics: Human Rights (Crosslist BLS and	11	Paola Cesarini	11:30-12:45	T,R
PSC 488 001	Capstone: Global Politics of Religion	12	Susan McCarthy	2:30 - 5:00	T
PSC 488 002	Capstone: America's Fiscal Future	12	William Hudson	2:30 - 5:00	T
PSC 488 003	Capstone: Labor & Business in U.S. Politics	12	Anthony Affigne	2:30 - 5:00	R
Fall 2011 -- Law					
LAW 201 001	General Law	25	Patricia McLaughlin	4:00-6:30	M
LAW 201 002	General Law	25	Ilisabeth Bornstein	8:30-9:45	M,R
LAW 201 003	General Law	25	Sharon O'Keefe	5:30-6:45	T,R