



Political Science Newsletter



SPRING 2012

CLASS OF 2012

The following students are expected to graduate this year:

- ◆ Solomon Abramov
- ◆ Susan Arora
- ◆ Zachary Blei
- ◆ John Campana
- ◆ Philip DiSanto
- ◆ Joanne Joseph
- ◆ Kimberly Kodis
- ◆ Suzie Natu Kure
- ◆ Andrea Macancela
- ◆ John Miller
- ◆ Kristen Morrow
- ◆ Thomas Nocera
- ◆ Alexis Santana
- ◆ Tatyana Vitta
- ◆ Pia Walker
- ◆ Nicholas Yuricic

Message from the Chair: Regina S. Axelrod

Our campus is rich with co-curricular activities. I encourage you to take advantage of these opportunities by joining clubs, participating in student government, attending lectures (there is a list of political science recommended lectures) on topics you may be unfamiliar with. These are exciting times especially with the 2012 election approaching.

I urge you to get involved. The political science faculty are always there to talk with you and share thoughts. Come visit us in Blodgett Hall, 202.

Congratulations to the graduates of 2012. We will miss you. Special kudos to those students expected to graduate with Honors in Political Science. Graduation is a joyous time, an oppor-

tunity to reflect on the Adelphi experience for each student. Certainly, you are changed. You have made friends and, we hope grappled intellectually with new concepts, theories and ways of thinking. We look forward to hearing from you in the future, keeping our political science family connected.

Study Abroad and Internships

The Political Science faculty strongly encourages students to take advantage of study abroad and internship programs. Overseas, there are excellent programs in Prague and Budapest, among others. The Provost offers a scholarship to study

abroad for which students can compete. Domestically, the Political Science Department has had great success sending our students to The Washington Center for an internship semester.



Political Science Department Awards

Hugh A. Wilson Award for Social and Economic Justice

The Hugh A. Wilson Award recognizes a senior Political Science major for activism in the areas of social and economic justice. The selection criteria are activities that serve the public interest, traditionally vulnerable groups, and social and economic equality.

Past Award Recipient:

2011: Romina Kazandijan

Self or peer nomination

Deadline: March 15, 2012

Award: monetary

W. Grafton Nealley Award for Excellence in Political Science

The department bestows the W. Grafton Nealley Award for Excellence in Political Science to its most outstanding senior. A committee of faculty members evaluates potential award recipients, taking into consideration factors such as grade point average in political science, the number and difficulty of courses taken, and improvement over time.

Past Award Recipient:

2011: Martin Vladimirov

Students are nominated by the Political Science Faculty.

Award: monetary & a book. The recipient's name is displayed on a plaque in the department office.

Robert J. Johnson Prize for Best Political Science Paper

Every year the Political Science Department awards the Johnson Prize for the Best Paper in Political Science. The paper must have been submitted in a political science course within the previous three semesters and received a grade of "A." Students may enter more than one paper.

Past Award Recipient:

2011: Nicholas Tomasso

Self nomination

Deadline: March 15, 2012

Award: monetary

About the Professors Honored in the Awards

Hugh Wilson, Emeritus Professor of Political Science, taught courses on American Government at Adelphi for 35 years. Before working at Adelphi and through his early years at the university, Professor Wilson was an organizer of poor peoples' movements in Nassau, Suffolk, and Westchester counties. His work focused on economic, social, and racial justice issues including welfare, housing, and employment rights. His justice work transitioned as he became a consultant to nonprofits and served as a trainer for nonprofit boards and staff. Professor Wilson was also a participant in the 1960's civil rights and anti-war movements. He published numerous articles on black politics, the suburbs, the politics of nuclear power, and black families. He is still an active member of the Adelphi community having served as interim

director of the Center for African-American and Ethnic Studies (spring 2007). He also returns to teach.

Robert J. Johnson is Emeritus Professor of Political Science at Adelphi University. He taught courses on law, the courts, and public policy. While at Adelphi, Professor Johnson earned a law degree from Hofstra University. He served as department chair several times. Professor Johnson was known to be the moral conscience of the university, speaking with integrity, clarity, and insight on controversial issues.

The late W. Grafton Nealley was a Professor of Political Science at Adelphi University, who taught courses on American Government. Arriving at Adelphi in the 1960's, Professor Nealley was a co-founder of the Political Studies Department,

which was previously part of the History Department. Known for his diplomatic manners within and outside the department, Professor Nealley is warmly remembered.

"We greatly appreciate the generosity of Professor Emeritus Hugh A. Wilson for funding these Awards."



Pi Sigma Alpha

Pi Sigma Alpha is the national Political Science Honor Society, with over 700 chapters at most leading colleges and universities in the United States. The qualifications for membership at Adelphi's chapter include: 1) at least four courses (including one course at the 300 level) in political science with a "B-" or better in each, 2) Overall Political Science GPA of 3.5 or higher, and 3) Overall university QPA of at least 3.0. It is not necessary to be a political science major to join. Students who are eligi-

ble for induction will receive an invitation to join in **mid-February**.

New Pi Sigma Alpha members and their families will be invited to the senior dinner, attended by the faculty, and graduating seniors and their families, for induction. Membership makes one eligible to compete for lucrative national Pi Sigma Alpha competitions and awards—Including best senior thesis and Washington D.C. internship stipends. Additionally, joining accentuates academic achievement and organi-

zational involvement, qualities that are of interest to many employers and graduate schools.

Continuing members of Pi Sigma Alpha include:

Solomon Abramov
Joseph Bruno
Philip DiSanto
Joanne Joseph
Kimberly Kodis
John Miller
Kristen Morrow
Thomas Nocera
Aleksandra Pinkasova
James Stavola
Elizabeth Taras



Departmental Honors

Departmental honors are conferred on students who have a QPA of 3.5 or better in the major and have completed a seminar with a "B" or higher.

Those Majors Who are Expected to Graduate with Departmental Honors in 2012 are:

Solomon Abramov
Philip DiSanto
Joanne Joseph
Kimberly Kodis
John Miller
Kristen Morrow
Thomas Nocera
Tatyana Vitta



Advising

Students **MUST** see their advisor for registration. Students should not register without their advisor's approval or they run the risk of not graduating on time, as curriculum offerings are subject to change and requirements must be met!

If you are unsure which faculty member is your advisor, please see the administra-

tive assistant Mrs. Dawn Marie Kelleher in the political science office, Blodgett 202. Faculty members will be posting hours for students to schedule advising appointments. Please come to your appointment prepared by submitting your proposed schedule to C.L.A.S.S. before your meeting. To avoid any scheduling conflict STEP students may need to

take the capstone seminar in the spring of their junior year. All STEP students should consult with Professor Axelrod, 516-877-4591. Also, students interested in the Washington Internship for Senior year must take the required Public Policy Seminar (429) that is offered usually in the Spring of each year. Please see Professor Axelrod if you have questions.

Internships & Conference Highlights



Report from John Miller
Political Science Major, Senior

SCUSA Conference, Fall 2011

I didn't really know what to expect when I agreed to participate in the 63rd Student Conference on US Affairs. I knew it was to be held at West Point Military Academy, and that it was going to be a four-day conference to discuss the major policy issues facing the United States, but that was about it. It turned out to be a week full of interesting conversations and tough policy discussion, as well as a glimpse into the life of a West Point officer-in-training.

Life in West Point was very unlike Adelphi University. From the early wakeup call to late-night study hours, so much of the day is regimented and uniform. Where you might see Adelphi students throwing around a Frisbee or football, at West Point it's not uncommon to see cadets parachuting out of helicopters. Everyone eats together, clothing is pre-determined, and everything is in the context of government service. At the same time, the cadets are still students. Even with the different setting, they still have similar interests and aspirations.

As interesting as getting the West Point tour and talking to cadets was, the real purpose of the trip was the conference. For four days, students from around the country gathered into different rooms to talk about policy issues in the United States, ranging from all sectors of foreign affairs to domestic issues. In keeping with the setting of our conference, I opted for "American Society and its Military", a look into how the military relates to greater society in times of war and peace.

The makeup of my panel was incredibly diverse. Though we had our share of American college and graduate students, we also were joined by foreign students, ROTC students, Canadian army cadets, West Point graduates, and military instructors. Though the conversation could often be dominated by a few people, the wealth of perspectives and ideas kept the discussion lively and informative. Over the course of those four days I filled up my notebook with facts about the American military and its various functions, information that I've gone on to use in debates and assignments for school. In less than a week I was getting a crash course in military policy and its place within society, as well as contributing my own knowledge to a constantly evolving discussion about whether the military is alienated from American society, and how to bridge that gap for the good of military-societal relations. By the time our panel had to calm down and culminate all our thoughts into a policy-recommendation paper, there was a lot of material to run through and distill.

I'll admit to being worried about how much time I would lose going to this conference, but it ended up being a very worthwhile experience and an excellent use of the time. If the whole point of collegiate education is to learn new perspectives and ways of thinking, the Student Conference on US Affairs in West Point was wildly successful. Beyond learning about my specific panel and hearing other panels' presentations of their own findings, I had the opportunity to learn about the American military from real Army officer cadets, some of whom had been in the action and seen how the combat structure really works. More important, I got to contribute to intense discussions about the future of America's military with college students from around the world and from all walks of life. It's an experience I simply could not have gotten anywhere else.

Report from Joanne Joseph
Political Science Major, Senior

Why I Could Never Be a Soldier, and Other Lessons Learned at SCUSA 63

The 63rd Student Conference on United States Affairs at West Point transformed my outlook, challenged my pre-conceptions, and contained some wonderful instances of political discussion, stimulating conversation, and heartwarming friendship.

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Internships & Conference Highlights, Continued

The Political Science Department gave me the incredible opportunity of attending this annual student-led conference, which took place on the historically and aesthetically magnificent West Point Military Academy campus. The four-day event, the theme of which was “Breaking Boundaries,” was packed full of panel discussions by some of the leading political thinkers of our time, subject-specific round-table discussions, tours and weapons displays, cheesecake buffets (yum!), and memorable nights at the First Class Club, one of the upperclassmen cadets’ only sources of entertainment on campus. We were also given the unique opportunity to be able to live alongside the West Point cadets – we slept in their small, cramped barracks, we woke up at the crack of dawn for formation, and we ate in their gorgeous Mess Hall which looked strikingly like something out of a Harry Potter novel.

Everywhere I turned, there was something of great historical significance, whether it be canons retrieved from the Civil War, standing on the same riverbank that George Washington did, or skimming my fingers over the Great Chain. I held an AK in my hands (they’re heavier than they look!), sat beside some of the most intelligent people I’ve ever met (who also happened to be some of the nicest), and came to realize the sacrifice that these soldiers put forward in the defense of their country. Although it was amazing to get a small glimpse of military life, I surmised that I could never make it as a cadet about thirty minutes after my arrival. When I asked my bunkmate, Amy, about whether she missed the ordinary college experience, she replied, “I made this choice, and I knew what I was giving up.” Although I felt so far from the familiar, I was able to meet some fellow Canadian citizens who travelled from the Royal Military College, distinguished in their bright scarlet uniforms against the backdrop of West Point’s traditional grey outfits.

The round-table discussion that I chose to be a part of was “Promoting Security and Prosperity in South and Central Asia,” I found this topic especially fascinating because of my Indian ethnicity, as well as my interest in the fact that this region presents an acutely salient security threat to the U.S., and yet also poses the greatest potential for growth. After hours of discussion and debate, we wrote a policy paper through the lens of the U.S. Military’s imminent withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2014. We divided our policies into three frameworks: security and stability, legitimate governance, and socio-economic development across the region. The paper-writing process was aided by the guidance of distinguished scholars, but most of the proposals arose from heated, brilliant debates about the multi-faceted issues involved. At the end of the conference, we were able to submit our paper for publication in a Political Science journal, as well as present our ideas in a fun, casual atmosphere by showcasing them through a skit. Hearing so many different perspectives from brilliant minds and being an active participant in that discussion left a permanent impression upon the way I view the role of America within the international political realm.

What was so striking about the entire process was how deep intellectual bonds can soften into true friendship. By the end of the four days, I had met some of the kindest, wittiest, and most globally-conscious people, and they quickly moved from being mere acquaintances to friends. I sincerely thank the Political Science Department for sponsoring me to attend this conference. The people I’ve met, the insights I’ve gained, and the perspectives I’ve shed as a result of this experience will always stay with me. If you, dear reader, ever get invited to represent Adelphi University at such a conference, don’t hesitate. I went in with extremely high expectations, and all I can say is that every single one I held was exceeded.

Report from Kristen Morrow
Political Science Major, Senior

Washington Center Intern, Fall 2011

Last semester I had the honor of interning in the House of Representatives for Congresswoman Kristi Noem (R-SD), an experience that undoubtedly changed my life both personally and intellectually. Congresswoman Noem is one of only 24 Republican women currently serving in the House and is someone who I looked up to as a role model long before I applied for my internship.

When I first began work I was mainly involved with constituent communication. I spoke to countless South Dakotans on the phone about their concerns and wrote letters to many of them on behalf of the Congresswoman. A particularly fun aspect of my job was learning how to give tours of Capitol Hill—feel free to ask me where to find the bathtub used by President Lincoln or the room where John Quincy Adams died. I absolutely loved talking politics with those who called and came to our office to visit. I believe it gave me a broader sense of how people outside of New York feel about the issues facing our country.

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Internships & Conference Highlights, Continued

I also had the chance to see the legislative process, which I previously studied in Professor Axelrod's public policy seminar, come to life before my eyes. When I first arrived in D.C. Congresswoman Noem had just introduced a bill that she co-authored entitled "The Farm Dust Regulation Prevention Act of 2011" (H.R. 1633). H.R. 1633 differentiates between rural and urban dust and gives more power to rural states in determining how to handle regulations. This issue may seem foreign to most Adelphi students but it is one that impacts the daily lives of farmers and small-business owners across rural communities.

Throughout the semester, I worked closely with Congresswoman Noem's legislative team in order to help pass H.R. 1633. I spent my days doing research and helping prepare packets of information. One of my biggest projects was working to gain cosponsors for the Bill—we eventually reached an impressive number of 121, including many Democrats who crossed the aisle to support us. I also worked with agriculture groups across the United States that wanted to express their support and lobby their own Representatives. The process came full-circle when, on my last day of work, I had the chance to sit on the House floor and watch as H.R. 1633 passed by a vote of 316-122.

Besides this legislative research, one of my favorite aspects of my internship was working with the press. I accompanied the Congresswoman to satellite interviews with local stations in South Dakota as well as national news sources including CNN and Fox News. I learned an incredible amount from watching her take questions and gracefully articulating her beliefs.

Looking back, most of what I experienced in D.C. seems surreal. When I think about answering the phone to hear Diane Sawyer on the other line, shaking hands with the Vice President, or the day I ran into Senator John McCain and barely managed to form a coherent sentence about how much I appreciate his service to this country, I still have to remind myself that it wasn't all a dream.

There is truly no way to express how grateful I am for the knowledge I gained and the connections I made. Perhaps most important, working for such an intelligent and accomplished woman in my field undoubtedly made me a stronger person and gave me the confidence that I, too, can succeed in what is certainly a cut-throat business. I learned to speak up for what I believe in and, as Congresswoman Noem reminded her team on a daily basis, to always, always take chances.

Report from Elizabeth Taras
Political Science Major, Junior

Washington Center Intern, Fall 2011



Elizabeth Taras pictured with John Dalton, President of the Housing Policy Council; Joan Gregory, Government Affairs Manager; Todd Hill, Government Affairs Assistant; Paul Leonard, Vice President of the Housing Policy Council.

I spent the Fall of 2011 in Washington, D.C. interning for the *Financial Services Roundtable*, *Housing Policy Council*. The *Financial Services Roundtable* is a trade association and the *Housing Policy Council* is an agency established to promote the mortgage and housing marketplace interests of member companies. There are 32 HPC member companies, including some of

the largest tier-I banks. HPC member companies service two-thirds of mortgages in the US. Some of the top HPC issues include GSE Future Structure and Role, Foreclosure Prevention, Government Role in Loan Modifications, Mortgage Regulation and Legislation. For a Political Science major and Economics minor, the hybrid of the two topics was a dream come true.

Throughout my internship, I attended an average of 3 Senate Banking Committee/House Finance Committee hearings a week and put together briefs of these hearings for my company to be able to keep up to date with all relevant pending legislation in Congress. I researched banks to recruit for HPC membership and had to evaluate their data to see if their productivity level matched other member banks. I was in charge of compiling a daily "Mortgage Journal," consisting of pertinent articles and distributing it to our members. I prepped, assembled, and coordinated material for executive council meetings, where I made an immense amount of professional connections.

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Internships & Conference Highlights, Continued

The highlight of my internship was our annual Fall Conference, which was a two-day event in the Washington Park Hyatt. I was introduced to Timothy Geithner, U.S. Department of Treasury Secretary; Charles Schumer, NY Senator; Eric Cantor, House Majority Leader; Mark Zandi, Chief Economist of Moody's Analytics; Patricia McCoy, Director of Mortgage Markets in CFPB. At other HPC executive meetings, I met Ed DeMarco, who is the Director of FHFA, and several bank executives. The networking opportunities I had while in D.C. would not have been possible in any other location.

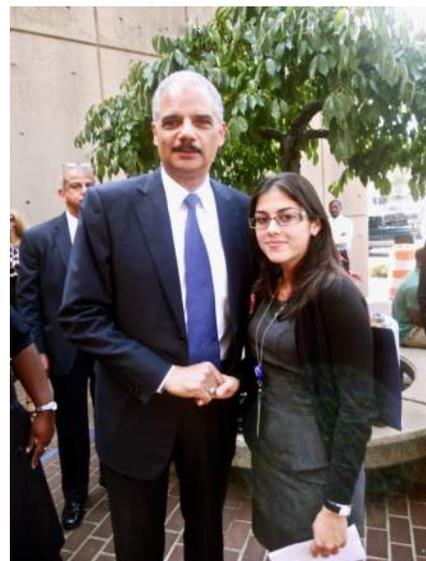
I was heavily involved in dissecting legislation for bank members, which tested my lobbying and public policy knowledge. Ultimately, I built on every understanding I had of the subject matter prior to arriving in D.C. Towards the end of my stay, I first-handedly had the opportunity to help the Vice President of HPC draft his testimony for the Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee. This testimony was to explain the Independent Foreclosure Review Act, mandated by the OCC. HPC was the primary representative for banks during this process, which essentially reviewed the foreclosure process of 2008- 2009, searching to find if any of the 4.5 million homes were wrongfully foreclosed. One of my most exciting days in D.C. was when I sat behind my boss presenting his senate testimony, that I helped him draft.

My semester in DC gave me an experience far surpassing my expectations. The most fulfilling part was how much I improved my knowledge of the field I am hoping to pursue while also broadening my interests into other subject areas. This experience as a whole was more than worthwhile and I know that I grew as a person as a result.

Report from Aleksandra Pinkhasova
Political Science Major, Junior

Washington Center Intern, Fall 2011

Aleksandra Pinkhasova pictured with U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder at a 9/11 commemoration



Upon arriving in Washington D.C., I was a student with a great academic standing, a part-time job, and an intention to attend law school. I had it all planned out—I would take the LSAT senior year, apply to law schools, graduate college, go to law school and become a lawyer. It was the perfect plan. Unfortunately, those were the only provisions of my perfect plan. After spending some time in D.C., I quickly learned that “even if you are on the right track, you will get run over if you just sit there.” Instead of following the simple, yet rigid, plan that I have set out for myself, I discovered that to become successful, like the attorneys around me, I would need to develop and grow as a person by constantly challenging myself in all areas. I was very fortunate to have the fusion of The Washington Center and my internship to help me arrive at that conclusion.

The Washington Center organized events such as the Career Boot Camp, tours of the Capitol and Supreme Court, trips to the Newseum and Spy Museum, a meeting with Senator Schumer's legislative staff, live C-Span broadcastings, and various panel discussions. I participated in a civic engagement project that assisted unemployed victims gain access to jobs. On Monday evenings I attended a Criminal Law and Criminal Procedure class. During my free time I attended Congressional Hearings on Capitol Hill.

Through my internship at the Civil Division of the U.S. Attorney's Office (Department of Justice), I was able to acquire great knowledge of the legal system. I attended misdemeanor and felony trials at the Superior Court level, accompanied Assistant U.S. Attorneys from my office for oral arguments at the Court of Appeals, and observed history being made at the Supreme Court of the United States. When in the office, I managed federal cases dealing with financial fraud and employment discrimination. My duties ranged from analyzing depositions to drafting motions and memorandums. I assisted attorneys in preparation for trial—attending depositions and meetings with representatives from various private and federal agencies. When time permitted, I worked with the Freedom of Information Act supervisor to process requests.

Through my experience in Washington D.C., I have learned firsthand that you have to put yourself out there in order to gain something. You have to sign up for events because you never know what opportunities you will come across. I met Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer at a book signing and shook hands with U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder at a 9/11 commemoration because I just happened to be there. I grew to be more motivated and confident and would recommend this experience to everyone.

Faculty News

Professor Regina S. Axelrod co-edited (with Stacy Vandever and David Downie) the third edition of *The Global Environment: Institutions, Laws and Policy* (Congressional Quarterly Press). The book was published at the end of 2011. It includes two chapters written by Professor Axelrod, "Democracy and Nuclear Power: The Czech Case and the Global Nuclear Renaissance" and "European Policy Making in the European Union" (the latter co-authored with Miranda Schreurs and Norman Vig). On November 9, 2011, she delivered a lecture, "What's Wrong with Nuclear Energy: Temelin and the U.S." at the Czech Institute of International Relations in Prague.

Professor Amando Basurto is a Ph.D. candidate at the New School for Social Research. His major is in political theory and he is writing his dissertation on Hannah Arendt's concept of Thinking and its relevance for her political theory. Professor Basurto has been lecturer in the National University of Mexico, the City University of New York and Drew University. His published work includes opinion editorials and book chapters on topics such as U.S. political thinking and foreign policy, Latin America, and Hannah Arendt. Last September, Professor Basurto published his essay "A Minimal Genealogy of American Democracy" as a book chapter in Mexico.

Professor Purnaka L. ("PL") de Silva's recent writing includes: (a) de Silva, Purnaka L. and Morash, Brett J. LCDR "Indian Ocean Tsunami and the Sea Tigers: Demise of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam" in *US Naval War College Review* (forthcoming Fall 2012); (b) "The Contested State: Terrorists, Trans-

national Criminals, Insurgents and Civil War" chapter for a collection edited by COL Anne Moisan (National Defense University - Near East and South Asia Center for Strategic Studies); and (c) "The Contested State: Westphalian Secularism Challenged by Faith Based Politics" (Unpublished Conference Paper). Professor de Silva is also working on several book projects.

Professor Margaret Gray has a new book chapter "Movimento per un'alimentazione Sostenibile ed Economia Politica del Lavoro" ("The Sustainable Food Movement and the Political Economy of Labor") in an Italian edited volume *Lavoro in Frantumia: Condizione Precaria, Nuovi Conflitti e Regime Neoliberista (Work in Crisis: Precarious conditions, New Conflicts and Neoliberal Regime)*, edited by Federico Chicchi and Emanuele Leonardi. She recently gave a talk at Williams College and is a recipient of a 2012 Adelphi University Faculty Development Grant.

Professor Katie Laatikainen spent most of the fall 2011 term editing the forthcoming volume, *The European Union and International Institutions: Performance, Policy, Power* that is being published by Routledge in 2012 and in which she has contributed a chapter. She will be chairing a panel and presenting at a Roundtable Discussion at the International Studies Association Conference in San Diego, April 1-4, 2012. She has been invited to lecture on the EU and US Relationship After the Lisbon Treaty at the London School of Economics on 17 June 2012, and she will present a paper on "Group Politics at the United Nations: Conceptual Considerations" at the British International Studies Association meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland 20-22 June 2012.

Professor Traci Levy presented a co-authored paper (with Professor Deborah Little from AU's Sociology Department) at a panel on "Autonomy, Vulnerability, and the Democratic Responsibility for Care" at the Western Political Science Association's Annual Meeting in March 2012. Professor Levy is this year's coordinator for the Collaboration Project's "End Gendered Violence" theme and continues as director of the Gender Studies minor.

Professor Lawrence R. Sullivan has been contracted by Scarecrow Press, Lanham, Maryland, to produce a two-volume *Historical Dictionary of Science and Technology in Modern China, 1912-2012* in conjunction with a natural scientist from the People's Republic of China. Professor Sullivan has also been invited to write a series of articles for the international affairs magazine *The Diplomat*. In conjunction with the recent visit to the United States by Mr. Xi Jinping, China's current Vice-President and in all likelihood future President. Professor Sullivan attended events at the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations and the Council of Foreign Affairs in NYC. Professor Sullivan has begun research on a follow-up volume to his forthcoming book *Leadership and Authority in China, 1895-1976* (Lexington Books). Professor Sullivan also consulted on the *Historical Dictionary of Chinese Intelligence* (Scarecrow Press) edited by Nigel West.

Professor Emeritus Hugh A. Wilson delivered the Adelphi University Constitutional Day Lecture on September 19, 2011 - "The U.S. Constitution and the Myth of Laissez-Faire"

Political Science Alumni: Where are they Now?

If you would like to appear in future Newsletters, please keep in touch. Our contact information is on the web or E-mail: Levy@adelphi.edu. We love hearing from our Alumni!

Melissa Avraham (2007) is a child/adolescent social worker at a psychiatric facility in Philadelphia. In October, Melissa and her husband welcomed a baby girl, Kaylah Drew.

Dan Cronin (2008) is an Analyst at ICF International in Washington D.C. He works with a team of dedicated people that support the EPA ENERGY STAR program. On a daily basis, Dan interacts with the accredited laboratories that test each product before they earn the mark. Dan also contributes to the development of the brand new ENERGY STAR Climate Controls specification, which was mentioned in a recent report by the National Science and Technology Council.

Robert Danziger (2009) is completing a Master's degree in Political Science at Long Island University CW Post. He is also waiting to hear back from PhD programs. Despite all of his education and lots of advice against it, he continues to attempt to stick jokes into all of his papers. He continues to teach music and tutor.

Vida Erdman (Manavizadeh) (2004) is working as an inpatient Oncology nurse at Oregon Health and Science University. She is happily married and is enjoying the rainy Northwest.

Vivian Fridas (2010) is currently seeking to attain a Master's degree in Government and Politics. In the past two years Vivian has interned and worked at various political offices. Additionally, this past May Vivian received her first guide dog. Ditto, a black lab has changed her life for the better. Ditto allows her to be a more mobile, independent, confident, and

happier person. Vivian and Ditto have been on many adventures in these few short months and looks forward to many more to come.

Hillary Frisbie (2006) will be completing her Master's degree in Arts and Cultural Management this spring with a focus on Strategic Planning for Theatres and is working as a Technical Director at Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY. She is also a freelance Production Assistant at Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, working with the Educational Outreach Department on programming for underserved communities. Hillary is also on the Executive Board of Arts and Cultural Management Professionals (ACMP) at Pratt Institute. In her free time she plays competitive softball for Big Apple Softball League.

Christian Fundo (2007) was admitted to the Appellate Division, Second Department and is now a licensed New York attorney. He is an associate with Dechert LLP's Corporate and Securities group. Christian has also volunteered for number of pro bono clients, including the National Law Center for Homelessness and Poverty, for whom he helped update the "Voter Registration and Voting: Ensuring the Voting Rights of Homeless Persons" report ahead of the 2012 elections.

Michael Ganci (2007) is entering his final semester at Hofstra Law School and will be seeking admission to the NYS Bar this Summer. Michael has also continued his work in the field of law as a Paralegal at Cobert, Haber & Haber, LLP

John Gherlone (2008) graduated, magna cum laude from Thomas M. Cooley Law School in May 2011. He was recently admitted to the bar in both New York and New Jersey, as well as the United States Federal District Court for the District of New Jersey. Currently, he is awaiting a

commission as a First Lieutenant with the United States Army Reserves. Upon receipt of the commission, John will serve as the Deputy Staff Judge Advocate for the 78th Training Division, Fort Dix, New Jersey.

Brian Hoyle (2010) continues to work as a third grade teacher in Prince William County, VA. He is leading the school's Robotics club, as well as working with fitness clubs within the school for boys and girls in upper grades. He was nominated for a Teacher of the Year award. Brian is currently "house-hunting" in Northern Virginia!

Samantha Pando (2011) is using her free time wisely. Along with preparing for the GMAT, she is also working full-time running her own sales department in a large nationwide party retailer chain. She is using her time to network and help provide new marketing initiatives with her corporate office which has brought about many changes at the national level. She also plans to apply to business schools in the New York Metro area over the upcoming months.

Michele Rosenblatt (2009) is in her last year at Touro Law School. For the Spring 2012 semester, Michele is interning with the Honorable Stephen L. Ukeiley in the District Court in Central Islip, New York. Michele is looking forward to graduation and the future.

Nick Tomasso (2011) is pursuing a Master's degree in Secondary Social Studies Education from Adelphi's Ruth S. Ammon School of Education. Working towards this goal, he is currently student teaching at Hempstead Senior High School.

Martin Vladimirov (2011) is pursuing a two-year Master's degree in the Advanced International Studies Program at the Vienna Diplomatic Academy in Austria.

Student Survey Political Science Majors were asked:

“What do you think is the most important issue facing the United States during this election year, and why?”



The following responses were obtained by Political Science Majors: Kimberly Kodis & James Stavola

Gabriella Ali-Marino, Sophomore—“I think the most important issue is financial reform, which is something that the candidates aren’t really touching upon. The recession was something that affected the entire nation and was partly due to carelessness and greed in the financial sector. But, it doesn’t seem like anyone wants to pay attention to it because those same big businesses are probably funding campaigns. Candidates need to make it a discussion point and have a plan to fix it.”

Jake Komar, Junior—“It would have to depend on who you are. If you are a student, it may be the student loan debt problem which has passed home owner debt! If you are an unemployed American, it will most certainly be the economy that you will be the most concerned with. If you are a person who is employed and doing well, it may be international crisis that concern you. It is all about perspective.”

Elizabeth Taras, Junior—“I would say that the most important issue facing the U.S during this election year is getting the housing market up and running, which would help stimulate our economy.”

John Miller, Senior—“The most important issue this year is not the economy, or some major social issue. If we want to prosper as a nation, we need less of the political divisiveness that has defined the last four years. Only by encouraging greater political unity can we really make our country stronger.”

Alexis Santana, Junior—“I believe economic inequality would be the most

pressing issue for people in the upcoming presidential election as it has gained a greater amount of national attention.”

James Stavola, Senior—“When looking at the totality of issues facing the United States, I believe that taking responsible steps to ensure our global economic superiority should be at the forefront of all considerations. This includes improving our domestic economy and the export-oriented side of our economy in order to address further matters such as job creation.”

Kimberly Kodis, Senior—“Perhaps an idealistic goal, but I believe that there must be cooperation between the elected candidate and Congress if any issue (i.e.: the housing market, unemployment, etc.) facing the United States is going to be solved. During Obama’s presidency, Americans have seen the constant game of tug-of-war taking place between the president and Congress; this has often resulted in absolutely nothing being accomplished besides a headache for the government and the American people who want to see change. It’s time to put Republic/Democrat, religious/non-religious, etc. views aside and genuinely work towards a better America.”

John Campana, Senior—“The most important issue that the United States faces with the upcoming election is international relations. North Korea is the country that we still do not have any international dialogue with that also possess nuclear war heads. If the issue is not discussed before something happens it will be detrimental to international peace.”

Joanne Joseph, Senior—“I believe that the American public will choose the candidate who offers the best solution to create jobs and bolster the econo-

my. However, beyond the obvious, I see a greater issue with the fact that the nation just seems generally disappointed and disaffected with the government. Above all, I want America to choose a candidate who is a well-intentioned person of both integrity and action—someone who (imagine this) actually dares to fulfill his lofty promises.”

Joseph Bruno, Junior—“At the current moment, the American public is witnessing an incredible ideological split over how to approach fiscal policy. Accordingly, during this election year, American politicians as well as the general public must determine whether government spending should be slashed, neatly trimmed, or left unaltered. We must choose wisely—trimming the budget too much could rob Americans of tax breaks and extended unemployment benefits; however, we cannot forget the ever growing national deficit.”

Sarabeth Rangiah, Junior—“To me, unemployment would be the most important issue facing people in the United States when considering the upcoming election. We need to find ways to create jobs so people can get back to work and feel secure enough to start spending again.”

Patricia Guiliano, Junior—“I would say the economy, taxes, and the lack of leadership in government. The budget dilemmas need to be addressed, the worry of many citizens for taxes to be raised and what that impact will be. Also, security of the country - many people do not want more wars but are worried about certain countries like Iran and supporting our ally Israel.”

POLITICAL SCIENCE SPRING 2012 LECTURES

(Political Science Majors must attend at least one)

Wednesday, February 8

A Tale of Two Schools: Race and Education on Long Island
University Center, Room 313, 6-8:00 PM

Monday, February 20

Know Your Rights Workshop
(How to exercise your rights safely when dealing with the NYPD)
Blodgett Hall, Room 109, 6:45.-8:45 PM

Wednesday, March 21

"The Euro Crisis: The View from Europe"
Christopher Matthews
European Union Delegation to the United Nations
1-2:15 PM

Tuesday, March 27

Ambassador Donatus Keith St. Aimee
Permanent Mission of St. Lucia to the United Nations
"Climate Change and Sustainability"
Alumni House, 10:30 AM

Thursday, April 12

Ambassador Csaba Korösi
Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations
"Brave New World—Global Tendencies, Challenges and Opportunities from
Central European Perspectives"
Alumni House, 12:00 PM

Wednesday, April 25

Take Back the Night
UC Ballroom, 6 PM

The Take Back The Night Foundation seeks to end sexual violence in all of its forms including sexual assault, sexual abuse, dating violence, and domestic violence. TBTN empowers survivors in the healing process and inspires responsibility in all. The goal of TBTN is to create safe communities and respectful relationships through awareness events and initiatives.



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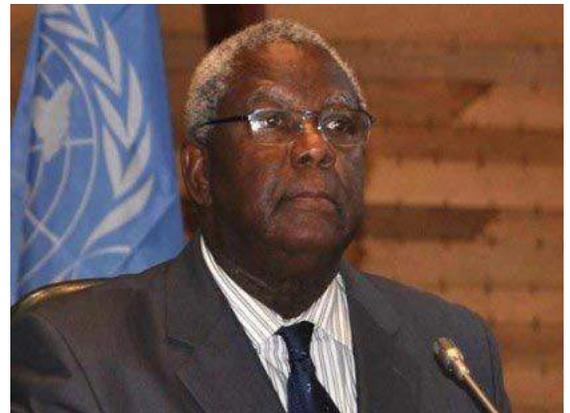
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We're on the Web at <http://academics.adelphi.edu/artsci/pol/index.php>

Please join us at Adelphi University for these Ambassadorial Lectures



Pictured above left is Permanent Representative of Hungary to the United Nations, Csaba Kőrösi, who is presenting a lecture on global tendencies, challenges and opportunities from Central European perspectives on Thursday, April 12th.



Pictured above is Permanent Representative of St. Lucia to the United Nations, Donatus Keith St. Aimee, who is presenting a lecture on climate change and sustainability on Tuesday, March 27th. .