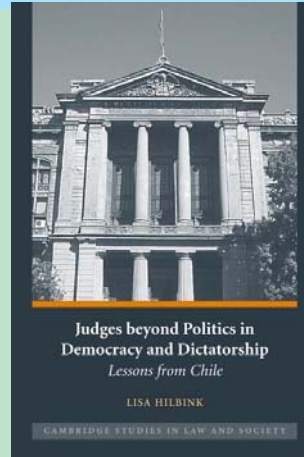
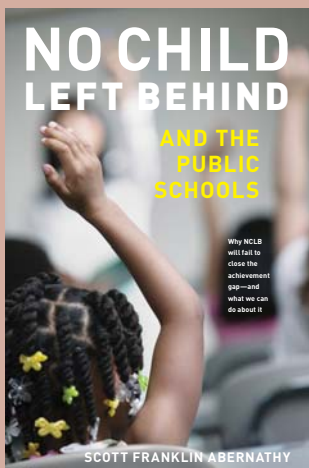
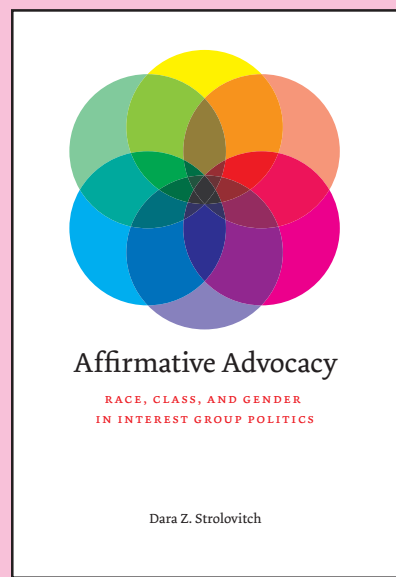
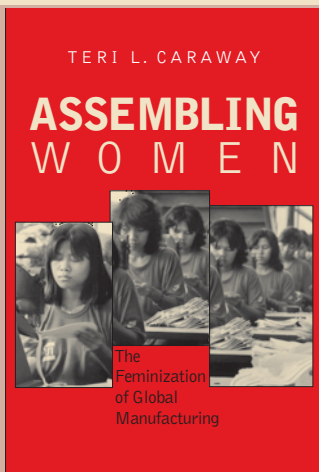


# Poli Sci Connection

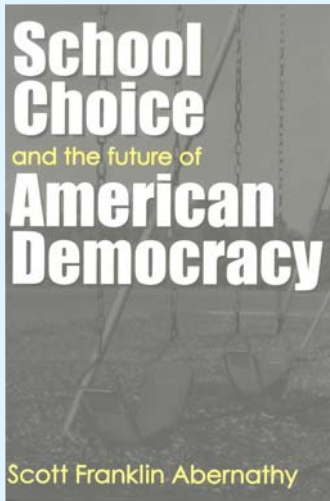
For the alumni & friends of the  
Department of Political Science  
College of Liberal Arts  
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Summer 2007



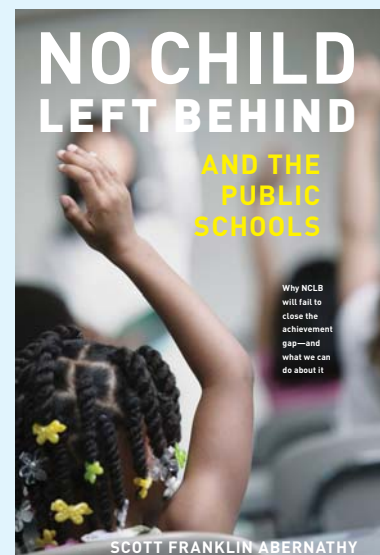
## Congratulations to THREE Newly Tenured Political Science Faculty Members—

**Scott Abernathy's** approach to the study of American politics and policy is to use specific public policies as windows into larger questions in the study of American democracy. To this point, Scott has focused on current educational policies in the United States, with two separate book projects. His interest in American education policy derives partly from his experiences as a public school teacher and street counselor with homeless adolescents and partly from a belief that education is critical to almost every aspect of the pursuit of good government.



The first project, *School Choice and the Future of American Democracy*—published in 2005 with The University of Michigan Press—explores the classic tension between liberty and equality in American democracy. Combining quantitative and qualitative analyses, Scott focuses on the effects of school choice reforms on political participation within and beyond the school walls. He challenges the assertion that public schools will necessarily improve when confronted with market-based reforms, raise the possibility of more disconnected and isolated public schools under choice (especially if those policies facilitate exit to the private sector), and show that an uncritical faith in the markets can have a devastating impact on the democratic communities in which these market forces are unleashed. His hope is that the book will contribute to both the school choice debate and to larger considerations in the study of feedback-effects in public policy and the relationship between private markets and democratic communities.

In *No Child Left Behind and the Public Schools*—Scott asks if it is possible to use national policy to ensure equality of educational quality amidst an unequal distribution of resources. Scott argues that the law's promise to close the achievement gap between advantaged and disadvantaged students in the United States is going to go unfulfilled unless it is significantly rethought. Combining the results of surveys of Minnesota public and charter school principals with national data about how the law is playing out across the United States, he shows that it is going to take a fundamental reassessment of how we measure quality in education to achieve the critical liberal purposes of No Child Left Behind. Scott argues that policy makers need to consider looking more directly at the performance of the school's managers and operators in a system that adds meaningful rewards to the menu of punishments currently embodied in the legislation.



## Newly Tenured Faculty

**Christopher M. Federico's** research interests fall squarely within the domains of social and political psychology. Under these broader headings, he has developed programs of research focused on: (1) the organization of racial attitudes and perceptions; (2) the interplay of ability and motivation in the "use" of ideology; and (3) the relationship between "closed-mindedness" and attitudes toward political conflict. In addressing these concerns, Chris takes an explicitly interdisciplinary approach, drawing on theory and methods originating in both social psychology and political science.



### *The Organization of Racial Attitudes and Perceptions*

A recurring assumption in social science is that education reduces the scope and impact of prejudice. Specifically, education is thought to provide cognitive skills needed for the learning and application of tolerant values, resulting in lower levels of prejudice and policy attitudes that are less informed by prejudice. Challenging this assumption, Chris shows that gains in cognitive ability associated with education may paradoxically strengthen the impact of prejudice by making it easier to determine the policy implications of prejudiced attitudes, even though average levels of prejudice are lower among well-educated individuals. In related studies, he shows that education strengthens conflicts between contrasting values responsible for sympathy and hostility toward racial outgroups among conservative whites, leading them to display greater ambivalence about blacks. Together, these studies provide an important caveat about the salutary effects of education: while schooling may reduce prejudice in an absolute sense, it may also facilitate the expression of prejudices which survive the educational process.

### *Ability, Motivation, and the Use of Political Ideology*

In another line of work, Chris focused on an oft-cited prerequisite for effective citizenship: the use of the abstract political distinction between left and right. This ideological distinction allows citizens to form political preferences that are well-crystallized and ideologically consistent with one another. Most perspectives on ideology suggest that its use is largely a function of the ability conferred by factual political knowledge. However, drawing on "dual-process" models in social psychology, he proposes a new model in which citizens are not likely to use ideology unless they are also motivated to form opinions and store them in memory for later use. In support of this model, Chris has found that political knowledge is associated with the possession of ideologically-informed political attitudes and perceptions only when citizens also possess a strong need to evaluate – a motivation to appraise things as "good" or "bad."

Chris plans to further explore this effect using resources provided by a grant proposal currently under review at the National Science Foundation and an earlier grant he was jointly awarded along with Paul Goren and Miki Kittilson. These projects will allow him to examine unexplored aspects of his model: namely, whether ability and motivation interact to increase the accessibility of citizens' ideological self-descriptions, stabilize their policy attitudes, and solidify their value orientations. The data generated by this body of work will provide researchers with a new perspective on how citizens "use" ideology and other abstract political concepts.

### *Closed-Mindedness and Attitudes Toward Social and Political Conflict*

Finally, Chris also examined the conditions under which closed-mindedness – in the form of a high need for closure, or a need for conclusions that are simple, unambiguous, and unlikely to change – is associated with aggressive attitudes toward political conflict. Typically, work on the psychology of intergroup conflict has assumed that a high need for closure should produce conflict-escalating attitudes. Departing from this simple perspective, Agnieszka Golec and Chris have argued that a high need for closure should be associated with competitive intergroup attitudes only among certain group members. Specifically, they have found that the need for closure is related to intergroup competitiveness only among members of groups possessing hostile conflict schemas, or shared ideas about what conflict is and how it should be resolved. These results have the potential to provide researchers and conflict-resolution practitioners with a better understanding of how the conflict-provoking effects of closed-mindedness might be attenuated.

Together, these streams of research illustrate his approach to social and political psychology. In each case, he draws on concepts and methodologies derived from social psychology and political science in an effort to make contributions to basic inquiry in both fields. In doing so, Chris's aim has been to offer a genuinely integrative and interdisciplinary perspective on the interface between the political world and the thoughts, feelings, and behaviors of the individuals that act on and are acted upon by that world.

Chris is the recipient of the 2007 Sigel Award for best paper by a junior scholar from the International Society of Political Psychology for "Race, Education, and Individualism Revisited." He also received the Erik Erikson Early Career Award by the International Society of Political Psychology. This award recognizes and celebrates exceptional achievement and is awarded to an individual who is within a decade of receiving his Ph.D.

## Newly Tenured Faculty

### Joanne Miller

Why do people choose to support one candidate or issue over another? Why do people choose to become politically active (by voting, volunteering for or contributing money to a candidate or group, signing a petition, etc.)? Given that democratic governance places responsibility on citizens to develop preferences and register them by participating in the political process, these questions are vitally important to Joanne Miller and scholars of U.S. politics. Joanne's first research program explores the direct and indirect effects of the media on citizens' political attitudes; her second examines the impact of psychological motivations on citizens' decisions to become politically active. Joanne applies political science, psychology, and communication theories and uses multiple research methods — including original experimental paradigms and survey instrumentation — to illuminate the processes by which citizens become politically engaged.



Joanne's first research program examines when and why the media impact citizens' assessments of the most important issues facing the nation, their evaluations of the president, their public policy attitudes, and their vote choices. Conventional wisdom is that the news media's impact on citizens' evaluations of the most important issues facing the nation (agenda-setting) and presidential evaluations (priming) are due to how quickly an issue pops into people's heads. Her research challenges this notion, suggesting instead that emotions are central to the process. She finds that agenda-setting is caused by the negative emotions the media arouse and that priming is caused by increases in national importance judgments. Citizens are not victims of the architecture of their minds; they rely on their emotional reactions to signal whether an issue is worthy of national attention, and only then do they use it to evaluate the president.

Joanne shows when and why entertainment media impact policy attitudes. She finds that citizens' support for tax increases to pay for public safety services are differentially affected by their exposure to "reality" and fictional TV shows about police and fire personnel, and that these effects are mediated by their attitudes towards local police and fire services.

She also examined the effect of political campaigns on vote choice. Despite the media's focus on the personalities and traits of candidates, the scholarly consensus is that "campaigns don't matter" – vote choice is largely driven by enduring forces like party identification. Her work shows that scholars have been looking for campaign effects in the wrong place – evaluations of personality traits do have an effect on vote for third party candidates. Through this connection, campaign effects (and, by extension, media effects) are sufficient to determine who wins contemporary elections.

Joanne also found that institutional forces besides the media can affect vote choice. She shows that when candidates are listed first on a ballot they receive more votes than when they are listed in other positions, especially in non-partisan and low visibility races.

Her second research program examines why people choose to become politically active. Most models of participation overemphasize the resource dimension at the expense of the motivation dimension – we know a lot about who participates, but much less about why they participate (through voting, volunteering, etc.). Joanne’s research begins to fill this gap by focusing on the causal impact of attitude importance and specific psychological motives.

One reason people choose to become politically active is because they are motivated to support an issue about which they care deeply. She argues that different measures of “caring” have distinct effects on behavior. She shows that the type of “caring” that has the biggest impact on participation is the amount of personal importance, not the amount of national importance, people attach to an issue. Thus, although the media can alter citizens’ attitudes about the most important issues facing the nation, such judgments do not affect their political behavior.

Scholars have proposed that a primary motivator of citizen activism is dissatisfaction with current life circumstances. Less prominent is the notion that the perception of a credible threat of an undesirable policy change could motivate behaviors to avert the threat. Joanne shows that the threat of a policy change motivates contributions to interest groups, especially when people attach personal importance to the issue and when they have sufficient disposable income. She recently began a project that examines the impact of a broader set of motives, the utility of motives for predicting types of activity, and the interactive effects of motives and resources.

The costs to meeting the responsibilities democratic governance places on its citizens can be considerable. Citizens are required to wade through an ever-growing information environment to decide what issues or candidates to support, and then to choose from a myriad of

political activities to register that support. Joanne’s research shows how citizens use the media to help them navigate through this process, and that they rely on their personal motives to determine if, and how, they will participate in politics. As such, her research has important theoretical and substantive implications for the study of political behavior and for the operation of our democracy. Individual-level political attitudes and participation vary over time. Resource-based models cannot explain this instability because resources do not vary enough from year to year to account for it. In contrast, media coverage and motives can be more variable. By placing the spotlight on these factors, her research addresses important theoretical questions about democratic representation, and also offers a practical contribution in its guidance for civic education programs aimed at increasing the quality and quantity of citizen involvement.

Joanne also received a \$287,000 grant from the National Science Foundation for a research project titled: “An Examination of the Role of Motives in Predicting Political Participation.” She has a forthcoming article in *Political Psychology*: “Examining the Mediators of Agenda Setting: A New Experimental Paradigm Reveals the Role of Emotions.” Joanne received The American Review of Public Administration’s Best Article Award for “Experience, Attitudes, and Willingness to Pay for Public Safety,” which she wrote with Amy Donohue.

## Undergraduate Student Profiles



Meizani is seen here boarding a U.N. Humanitarian helicopter from Calang back to the Aceh capital.

### Meizani Irmadhiany

My name is **Meizani Irmadhiany**, a political science and global studies senior.

I was working in Aceh, Indonesia in the summer of 2005. I received an Upper Midwest International Human Rights Fellowship to work in Aceh for a post-tsunami relief development project.

I was in the Calang district distributing bikes to be used for transportation by volunteer teachers. We distributed the bikes by taking fishermen's boat from the capital and once we got to Aceh we used trucks to transport the bikes because of the bad road conditions.

I am currently working on a documentary about children survivors of the tsunami in Aceh with Mercy Corps and North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences. The film tells the stories of children survivors and community support by looking at their lives in the pesantren (Islamic Boarding Schools). I am the translator and post-production coordinator for this project.



### Steve Hainlen

Political science major, **Steve Hainlen**, biked in *The Ride Across Minnesota (TRAM)* to help raise money to find a cure for multiple sclerosis. Here are some of Steve's thoughts and impressions of his 300-mile ride across the state:

When I first did this ride at the age of 8, I had no idea what multiple sclerosis was, or even knew anyone who had the disease; but each year the more that I ride, I learn of another person I know who has the disease. This was my tenth ride across Minnesota, and the last five have been as a member of "Team On Your Left." The team was founded by my dad, James Hainlen, and a former student of his, Marie Johnson, and has grown from four members to 17 members and three people who volunteer along the ride. My goal is to be among the first five riders into the camp every day.

The ride started right along the border of Wisconsin in Le Crescent, Minnesota. The first day is spent preparing yourself and your bike for the next five days. I got to reunite with people I only see on this ride such as Becky, the Rest Stop 3 nurse (who gives fantastic back rubs at the end of every day) and our team captain, Marie, a Blaine police officer.

On the first day at about 4:45 a.m., the zippers on tents started to jingle. At that point I got into bike clothes and packed up all of my bags and brought them over to the luggage trucks. Upon returning, Marie and I started the daily rousing the camp by shaking everyone's tents and making sure not a

soul from our team was still asleep. My dad had said he wanted to try to ride with me the first day so we started the biking part of the TRAM and took off towards Lanesboro. It was only 50 miles and relatively flat that day. For those of you who like biking and need a break from the Cities, you have to make your way down to Lanesboro and the Root River Trail which has some of the prettiest riding the State has to offer. We came in at around 10:00 a.m. that day and averaged 19.3 miles per hour over the ride. For the rest of the day the team sat around complaining about heat, shade, aches, and pains until we collapsed at 8:45 p.m.

My dad had said the pace was too much for him on Monday, so Tuesday I took off by myself. This day was rolling hills of moderate difficulty for 55 miles and we eventually ended up in Winona, Minnesota. I felt great that day and decided to push really hard and as a result averaged about 22 miles per hour over rolling hills, and finished second of the 1200 riders. The only noteworthy aspect of riding is that I had my annual TRAM crash that day. I always seem to fall at least once (generally not serious). That night we attended a discussion lead by doctors from Winona's hospital on advancements in MS research over the last year. It is always great to hear that your effort is actually making a difference for people.

Wednesday was the single hardest day I have ever had in ten years of the TRAM. It actually had categorized hills like there would be on the Tour de France, not to mention the heat index hit 112 during the ride. My dad rode with me again that day as we cruised through the Mississippi River Valley on our way to Wabasha averaging 17.6 for the day. One 12-mile segment consisted of a single uphill for six miles, and a single downhill for another six, although this did not bother me because climbing hills is what I do best. Wabasha was a beautiful little town and the campsite was right next to a little pond so our entire team went swimming to relax after a very hard and hot day.

On Thursday we rode to River Falls, Wisconsin. Thursday was about as great of a day

of riding as I have ever had. My legs just kept on going and the scenery was breathtaking. We climbed out of the Mississippi River Valley and as we went up and down the



bluffs, my glasses would fog up due to the humidity. Eventually we turned east and rode on country and historic roads all the way into River Falls. When all was said and done, I was the first person into camp and averaged 23 miles an hour.

The last day is always very short and very easy so I decided to ride with my little cousins who were the youngest riders on the TRAM, Ben Dahlman who is seven years old and Erik Dahlman who is nine (by the way they rode every mile). So instead of averaging 20 mph and being the first one in, I went 7 mph and had a squirt gun to keep them going. We rode into Dakota County Technical College and a great finish line. We took team pictures and registered for next year's TRAM, along with saying goodbye until our team party later in the year.

*Steve graduated in May of 2007. He was also one of the recipients of the Judge Earl and Mrs. Cecill Larson Scholarship and the 2006 William Jennings Bryan Prize which is awarded annually to the undergraduate who writes the best paper in a political science course. The title of Steve's paper is "How Economic and Cultural Issues Affected the 2006 Minnesota Sixth District Mid-Term Election." The paper was written in a Directed Studies course under the supervision of political science professor Kathryn Pearson. Steve will be attending William Mitchell School of Law this fall.*

# Graduate Students Win Fellowships



As the year winds down, I want to take the opportunity to point to the achievements of many graduate students in this program in competing successfully for external fellowship support of dissertation research and writing.

Seven graduate students were awarded Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships from the Graduate School. Congratulations to **Jason Arnold, Chris Chapp, Cigdem Cidam, Henriët Hendriks, Susan Kang, Jonneke Koomen, and Kartik Raj.**

**Sheryl Lightfoot** received the Ford Foundation's Diversity Dissertation Fellowship.

**Mark Hoffman** and **Michael Nordquist** will be on Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships next year.

And two more graduate students, **Ayten Gundogdu** and **David Kim**, were awarded Sawyer Doctoral Fellowships which are funded by the Mellon Foundation.

These awards provide testimony to the excellent work of these graduate students, and they are an indication of the high quality of this program. Hearty congratulations to all award recipients.

*Raymond "Bud" Duvall*  
*Director of Graduate Studies*



## More Good News...

**Carrie Booth Walling** was awarded the Deborah Gerner Grant for Professional Development by the Women's Caucus of the International Studies Association annual meeting. The grant will allow her to do fieldwork at the United Nations headquarters in New York City. Carrie and Kathryn Sikkink have an article forthcoming, "The Justice Cascade and the Impact of Human Rights Trials in Latin America," *Journal of Peace Research* 44(4), July 2007.

**Angela Bos** will be Assistant Professor at the College of Wooster in Wooster, Ohio after successfully defending her dissertation this summer.

**Isaac Kamola's** article, "The Global Coffee Economy and the Production of Genocide in Rwanda" was published in *Third World Quarterly* April 2007.

**Andrew Lucius** received a two-year Graduate Student Fellowship.

**Amy Skonieczny** accepted a tenure-track position at San Francisco State University beginning Fall 2007 after defending her dissertation this summer. This past year, Amy taught full time at Macalester College in St. Paul.

## Faculty News

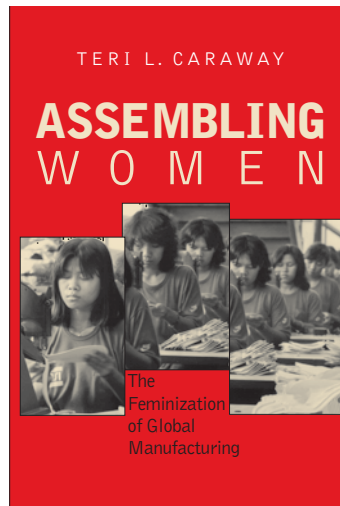
**Ben Ansell** received the 2006-2007 Senator Charles Sumner Prize for the best dissertation “from the legal, political, historical, economic, social, or ethnic approach, dealing with any means or measures tending toward the prevention of war and the establishment of universal peace.” The title of his dissertation is “From the Ballot to the Blackboard: The Redistributive Political Economy of Education.”

**Teri Caraway’s** newest book, *Assembling Women—The Feminization of Global Manufacturing* was published this spring.

“Despite the massive influx of women into the labor force as a result of globalization, the gender inequalities at work have remained largely unchanged. This book addresses two related questions: What has prompted the feminization of manufacturing work in developing countries, and why has it failed to significantly erode gender inequalities at work? Teri L. Caraway offers case studies and in-depth analysis of employment changes in Indonesia combined with cross-national data to show that the feminization of the workplace produced by industrialization policies has reconfigured and reproduced, rather than overturned, gender divisions of labor at work.

Caraway challenges the conventional wisdom that export-oriented industrialization and women’s cheap labor are the driving forces behind feminization. Instead, she argues, the answers can be found in weak unions and current social practice. Caraway employs information about a wide range of industries—capital-intensive, male-dominated, non-export firms as well as female-dominated, labor-intensive, export-oriented industries—in arriving at her conclusions. Her findings will prove discouraging to anyone who hopes that globalization has become a positive force in improving the lives of women workers.

Caraway’s multilevel methodology for analyzing changes in gendered patterns of employment and her introduction of “gendered discourses of work” as a major explanatory variable will make *Assembling Women* a valuable resource for women’s studies scholars, development economists, political scientists, and sociologists as well as all with an interest in Southeast Asian Studies and labor and industrial relations.”



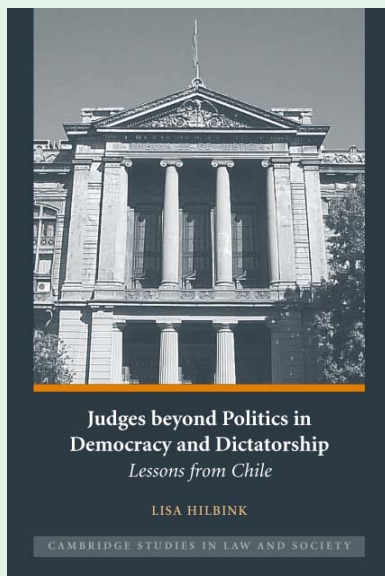
**Kathleen A. Collins** has been selected as a recipient of the University of Minnesota’s McKnight Land-Grant Professorship, a unique two-year award for the University’s most promising junior faculty. The McKnight Land-Grant Professorship will help Kathleen to continue research on her second book project: *The Resurgence of Islam and Islamism in Central Asia and the Caucasus*. The goal of the McKnight program is to advance the careers of the most promising junior faculty at a crucial period in their professional lives. Recipients are honored with the title McKnight Land-Grant Professor, a special award they will hold for two years. The award consists of a research grant in each of two years, summer support, and a research leave in the second year. The winners were chosen for their potential for important contribution to their field; the degree to which past achievements and current ideas demonstrate originality, imagination, and innovation; the potential for attracting outstanding students; and the significance of the research.

**Songying Fang** was awarded a fellowship at the Center for Globalization and Governance at Princeton University for 2007-2008.



Lisa in front of Spain's Constitutional Tribunal.

**Lisa Hilbink** spent the year on a research leave in Spain, supported by a Fulbright Senior Scholar Grant and a Single Semester Leave from CLA. The object of her study was the role of judges in the development of rights protection in democratic Spain, with a particular focus on the impact of the Judges for Democracy association. She conducted archival research in the Constitutional Tribunal and the General Council of the Judiciary, and interviewed a variety of high-profile judges and jurists who were central players in the transition to constitutional democracy in Spain. She also traveled to Portugal to conduct preliminary interviews for future comparative study there. Eventually, she hopes to publish a book that compares the role of judges in the democratic consolidation process of Spain, Portugal, Brazil, and Chile.



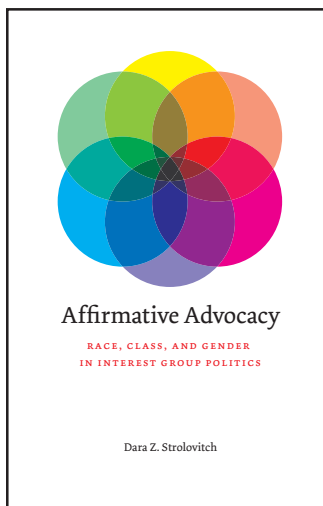
Her book manuscript, *Judges beyond Politics in Democracy and Dictatorship*, was accepted by the Cambridge University Press Series on Law and Society and is due out this summer.

The College of Liberal Arts announced that **Tim Johnson** is the winner of this year's Arthur "Red" Motley Teaching Award, a well-deserved honor! The award is sponsored by a gift from the family and friends of College of Liberal Arts alumnus Arthur Motley and alumni of the College. The purpose of the award is to recognize faculty who are outstanding teachers of graduate and undergraduate students in the College of Liberal Arts. Each award carries a stipend of \$5,000. This award is an appropriate way to utilize the meaning of Red Motley's life to encourage future generations. It acknowledges faculty who inspire and care, who make themselves approachable, who show an interest in individual students' well-being and in programs for the benefit of students generally, who give of themselves generously in advising, counseling, and directing projects, and who create an active classroom atmosphere. Tim also received NSF funding for his project, "ITR-SCOTUS: A Resource for Collaborative Research in Speech Technology, Linguistics, Decision Processes, and the Law."

**Kathryn Pearson** won the American Political Science Association's 2006 Carl Albert Dissertation Award for the best doctoral dissertation in the area of legislative studies. The title of her dissertation is "Party Discipline in the Contemporary Congress: Rewarding Loyalty in Theory and Practice."

**David Samuels** presented papers on "Brazilian Democracy under Lula and the PT" at the Inter-American Dialogue in Washington, D.C., and at a briefing on Brazil organized by the U. S. Department of State's Bureau of Intelligence and Research.

The President of the University of Minnesota announced the appointment of three new Regents' Professors, and our colleague **Kathryn Sikkink** was one of them. "Established in 1965, the Regents Professorship is the University's highest recognition for faculty excellence. The award honors faculty whose especially distinguished accomplishments in teaching and scholarship or creative work have contributed uniquely to the University and to the public good." Kathryn's accomplishments clearly warranted this appointment. Kathryn spent the fall of 2006 on a single semester leave in the Southern Cone of Latin America, conducting research on the origins and impact of human rights trials in Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil. While there, she made presentations at the Torcuato Di Tella University, the Economic and Social Development Institute (IDES) and the Center for Legal and Social Studies (CELS) in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and at the Center for Human Economy in Montevideo Uruguay.



**Dara Strolowich's** new book *Affirmative Advocacy: Race, Class, and Gender in Interest Group Politics*, was published this spring by the University of Chicago Press. She also had an essay, "A More Level Playing Field or a New Mobilization of Bias? Interest Groups and Advocacy for the Disadvantaged,"

published in January in Allan Cigler and Burdett Loomis, edited volume, *Interest Group Politics 7e* (CQ Press). Dara also had some journal articles published this year: "Do Interest Groups Represent the Disadvantaged? Advocacy at the Intersections of Race, Class, and Gender," *Journal of Politics* 68 (4): 893-908 and "New Orleans is not the Exception: Re-politicizing the Study of Racial Inequality," with Paul Frymer and Dorian Warren. *Du Bois Review* 3 (1): 37-57.

At its fall convention, the American Political Science Association, in partnership with Blackwell Publishers, announced the creation of the **John Sullivan Award** to honor the best paper published annually in the interdisciplinary journal, *Political Behavior*. Regents' Professor John Sullivan was also named a 2007 Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. "Fellows and Foreign Honorary Members are nominated and elected to the Academy from a broad-based membership, comprised of scholars and practitioners from mathematics, physics, biological sciences, social sciences, humanities and the arts, public affairs and business, which gives the Academy a unique capacity to conduct a wide range of interdisciplinary studies and public policy research."

## *Congratulations to all of our award-winning professors:*

**Ben Ansell**

Senator Charles Sumner Prize

**Kathleen Collins**

McKnight Land-Grant Professorship

**Songying Fang**

Center for Globalization and Governance Fellowship

**Lisa Hilbink**

Fulbright Senior Scholar Grant

**Tim Johnson**

Arthur "Red" Motley Teaching Award

**Kathryn Pearson**

Carl Albert Dissertation Award

**Kathryn Sikkink**

Regents' Professor

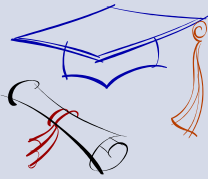
**John Sullivan**

Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences

# Poli Sci Alumni Return to Campus

## *Forrest Maltzman Receives Distinguished Graduate Award*

by Jason R. Arnold



In recognition of his continued academic success since leaving Minnesota with a Ph.D. in 1993, the Department of Political Science honored Forrest

Maltzman with the 2006 Distinguished Graduate Award in a ceremony last fall. A packed Lippincott Room greeted Forrest for his presentation, “Controlling the Law: Agenda Setters, Median Voters, and the Status Quo on the U.S. Supreme Court,” wherein he used internal Court memos to support a formal theory of how Justices collectively decide cases. It was exactly the sort of multi-method research—pivoting back and forth between historical archives and game theoretic equations—that has made Forrest Maltzman’s work on American national institutions influential in the discipline.

In a brief meeting before his lecture, Forrest spoke about his graduate school experience, the evolution of his research interests, the benefits of teaching and researching American politics at George Washington University in the nation’s capital, and the strong reputation of Minnesota’s doctoral program. One of the department’s great strengths, he noted, is the breadth of its graduate training. He fondly recalled, for example, sampling widely from the department’s sub-disciplinary offerings, taking seminars in political psychology and comparative politics at the same time as diving deep into the enormous literature on Congress. This sort of broad graduate training afforded to Minnesota graduate students, Forrest insisted, is widely admired in the discipline. While most alumni would likely concur, many might also recognize one of the potential side effects of this distinction: last-minute pleas from department heads to teach across sub-fields. At George Washington U., Forrest and his wife Sarah Binder (1995

Minnesota Ph.D., 2003 Distinguished Alumna) are known as the department’s “pinch hitters”—a designation both enjoy.

Forrest’s research interests generally converge around three subjects. The first involves analyses of the U.S. Congress, best exemplified by his influential 1997 book *Competing Principals: Committees, Parties, and the Organization of Congress*. The second concerns the decision-making processes of U.S. Supreme Court Justices, not an easy task considering their reluctance to discuss how they decide cases or grant *cert*. One project resulting from this line of work, *Crafting Law on the Supreme Court: the Collegial Game* (co-authored with James F. Spriggs and Paul J. Wahlbeck), won the C. Herman Pritchett Award from the Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association. The third body of work investigates the dynamics of inter-branch relations, such as his work on Senate confirmations of executive branch judicial nominations. All three research programs remain active, and there are no signs that Forrest will slow down anytime soon.

Part of the inspiration likely comes from living in Washington, D.C. For a student of American politics, nothing beats living and working in the nation’s capital. While anyone can mine for data online or in university libraries, few have the opportunity to casually pick the brains of politicians, pundits, and lobbyists who happen to live down the street. Given the ubiquity of politics in Washington and his dual poli sci household, Forrest and Sarah are often asked if their children are likely to enter the family business. In fact, Forrest noted, their daughter recently had the opportunity to meet President Bush during the slow march to the Iraq War. Where other presidents might have spent time building coalitions, he joked, this one found time to meet local Brownie troops.

## John Kringen Receives CLA Most Notable Alumni Award

On March 7, **John Kringen** (Ph.D. Political Science, 1978), CIA Director for Intelligence, returned to campus to receive a CLA Most Notable Alumni Award. The College of Liberal Arts recognized over 40 individuals at this year's CLA Alumni of Notable Achievement program. This award celebrates and honors the significant achievements and contributions of CLA alumni.

Candidates for this award may be nominated by CLA alumni, faculty or staff. Of the college's 110,000 graduates, only about 1,200 have been selected as Alumni of Notable Achievement. Recipients are recognized for their accomplishments and leadership which have brought distinction to their professions, their communities and the college. By honoring them, CLA celebrates their accomplishments as well as the collective depth and breadth of their interests, talents, career paths, and achievements in all sectors of society.

While on campus for the award presentation, John generously volunteered to meet with students to talk about working for the government and life in Washington, D.C. Several students came to meet John, learn more about his career, and ask questions about pursuing jobs in the nation's capital.

John was one of over 40 individuals to receive the 2007 award. Four other political science alumni were also recipients of the Most Notable Alumni Award this year. They are Richard Brustad (B.A. 1963), Edwina Garcia (B.A. 1979), Michael Le May (Ph.D. 1971), and Robert Vanasek (B.A. 1971).

Congratulations to all of this year's recipients!

## What Can I Do With A Major In The Social Sciences?

On February 26, the Department of Political Science along with several other social science departments cohosted a career event for undergraduates: "What Can I Do With A Major In The Social Sciences?"



Political science alumni included **Michael Dahl**, (B.A. 1995) and **Libby Sharrow** (B.A. 2002). Michael is the Executive Director of the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless. He is on the Board of Directors for the National Coalition for the Homeless and on the Public Policy Cabinet for the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits. Michael has worked as a social justice advocate since graduating with honors in 1995. As an undergraduate, Libby was a member of the U of M rowing team where she served as Varsity Captain. She is currently an Assistant Coach for the U of M Intercollegiate Athletics department. In May of this year, Libby will complete her M.A. in Public Policy with a minor in Feminist Studies. Starting this fall, Libby will be entering the U of M's Ph.D. Program in political science.

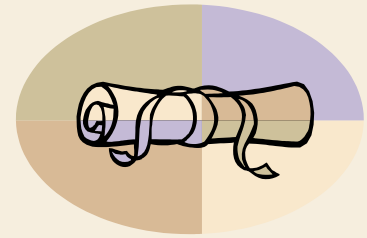
Other alumni speakers at this career event included **Karl Barrett**, (History & English, B.A.), **Shawna Johnson**, (Sociology, B.A.), and **Paul Schmid**, (Sociology, M.A.). Karl is a Senior Client Services Agent and Registered Representative with Ameriprise Brokerage. He has extensive background in the customer service industry, and currently works with Ameriprise field offices. Shawna has been a Probation Officer for Ramsey County Community Corrections for the past 15 years. She works with adult offenders who have been convicted of a domestic-assault related offense. Paul is a Consultant for U.S. Bank. In this capacity, he designs and coordinates measurement processes and consults on assessment results to improve staff and business performance.

## Alumni Updates

**Maria Tess (Shier) Barker (B.A. 1994)** is currently attending the University of Iowa pursuing a joint degree from the College of Law and a doctorate from the College of Education in Education Leadership and Policy Studies.

**John Bessler (B.A. 1988)**, a two-time Minnesota Book Award finalist, is the author of a new book, *Writing for Life: The Craft of Writing for Everyday Living*. Further information about the book is available at [www.bottlecapbooks.com](http://www.bottlecapbooks.com). John has previously authored three books on the subject of capital punishment, including *Legacy of Violence: Lynch Mobs and Executions in Minnesota*, University of Minnesota Press, 2003.

**Lawrence Dodd (Ph.D. 1972)** writes to let friends in the department know of two honors he received at the April 16th, 2007 Faculty Awards Banquet at the University of Florida. Larry was one of six faculty members from across the University to receive UF's Outstanding Dissertation Advising and Doctoral Mentoring Award. And at the end of the banquet Larry was awarded the University-wide Teacher/Scholar of the Year Award. The oldest and most distinguished faculty honor at the University, the Teacher/Scholar Award is designed to recognize one faculty member each year who demonstrates superior achievement in both teaching and scholarship. The one political scientist to win the award prior to Larry was the late Manning J. Dauer in 1964. Larry holds the Manning J. Dauer Eminent Scholar Chair at Florida, endowed by Dauer following his retirement from the university. Larry and his colleague (and wife) Leslie Anderson are hard at work these days on an NSF-funded study of the 2006 national election in Nicaragua. The study follows up on their book, *Learning Democracy* (Chicago, 2005), which analyzes the advent of competitive elections in Nicaragua during the 1990s. Simultaneously, he and co-editor Bruce Oppenheimer are at work on the 9th edition of *Congress Reconsidered* (CQ Press), which will focus on the return of Congress to Democratic control following the 2006 elections. Larry joined the Florida Department in 1995, after tenured positions at UT-Austin, Indiana-Bloomington and Colorado-Boulder. While the 'mature' Larry concentrates these days on summer hikes in Colorado with his grandson Andrew or horseback jaunts with Leslie, the 'young' Larry can be seen on his website ([web.clas.ufl.edu/users/ldodd](http://web.clas.ufl.edu/users/ldodd)) turning a somersault near Minnehaha Falls after completing his doctoral coursework in the spring of 1971. His affection for the department continues and he wishes all the very best.



**Dennis Wade Erickson (B.A. 1972)** received the Public Attorney of the Year Award for 2006. He is also a 1988 graduate of William Mitchell College of Law with a JD Degree. Dennis is a 38-year resident of Bloomington, Minnesota and has been employed by the Minnesota Department of Human Services for 33 years.

**Diana Fu (B.A. 2006)** and a Rhodes Scholar headed off for Oxford University last fall.

Diana reports she is excited to start an MPHIL (masters of philosophy) in development studies, which is a combination of politics, economics, and anthropology. This is a two-year program. She has been placed at Linacre College. Diana's undergraduate honors thesis, "A Cage of Voices: Producing the Dagongmei in Modern China" has been accepted for publication in *Modern China*. She writes, "I am only starting to fully realize how lucky I was at the U of M. I received so much mentoring, more than any one student could ever have asked for!"

**Paula Kessel Thompson (B.A. 1977)** has worked for the DFL Caucus in the Minnesota House of Representatives since 1978. She is currently a writer/caseworker for the Constituent Services Department of the House DFL Caucus.

**Fr. Christopher J. Manahan, S.J. (B.A. 1978)** began work as assistant novice director at the Jesuit Novitiate in St. Paul last August. His new position involves teaching and directing men during their first two years as Jesuits and before they make their first vows. After graduating from the U of M, Fr. Manahan also earned a B.A. in secondary education from the University of Northern Iowa, an M.A. in American Studies from St. Louis University, and an Masters of Divinity from the Jesuit School of Theology in Berkeley, California.

**Paula O'Loughlin (Ph.D. 1998)** was honored at a ceremony on April 23 at the McNamara Alumni Center on the U of M Twin Cities Campus. Paula received one of the University's prestigious teaching awards, the Morse-Alumni Award. This award recognizes University faculty members for their outstanding contributions to undergraduate education. Paula teaches at the University of Minnesota—Morris Campus.

**Thomas Rudolph (Ph.D. 2001)** has been named as a winner of the Emerging Scholar Award by the Elections, Public Opinion, and Voting Behavior section of the American Political Science Association. The award is presented annually to "the top scholar in the field within ten years of the doctorate." This is the second time a Minnesota Ph.D. has won this award. The previous winner, Wendy Rahn (Ph.D. 1990), was Tom's graduate advisor.

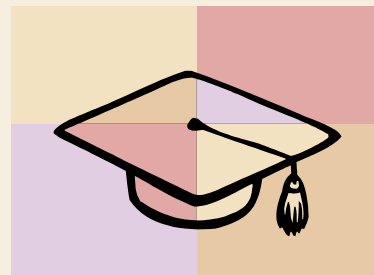
**Diogo Reis (B.A. 2007)** was accepted into the Humphrey Institute at the University. He will begin his Masters in Public Policy program in September and will concentrate on Global Politics and Social Policy. Diogo currently works for the Minnesota House of Representatives as a Committee Legislative Assistant for Representatives Mike Jaros and Brita Sailer. He plans to continue working full time and going to school part time.

**Clinton Schaff (B.A. 2000)** left his post as Director of Communications and Politics for Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 99 in March of 2007 to take a position as the Senior Director of Online Marketing for the Los Angeles-based word-of-mouth marketing firm M80. Clint expects to complete his M.A. in Communications Management at the University of Southern California and the Annenberg Program for Online Communities in December 2007.

**Renee (Allard) Siemiet (B.A. 2004)** received her *Poli Sci Connection* newsletter and wanted to send an alumni update. Renee just earned her M.A. in Diplomacy from Norwich University (June 2006) in Northfield, Vermont!

**David Simon's (B.A. 2003)** article, "Executive Branch Ethics: Lawyering for the President in the Age of Terrorism" was published in *Harvard Law & Policy Review*. David, a Rhodes Scholar who completed an M.A. at Oxford, is currently attending Harvard Law School.

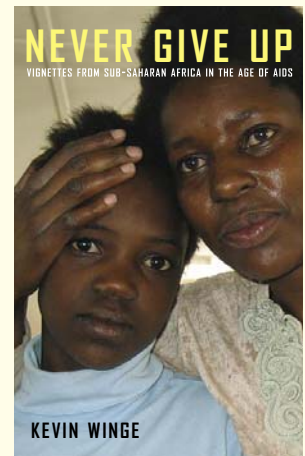
**Sylvie Tissot (B.A. 1995)** received a Ph.D. at Ecole des hautes études en sciences sociales (Paris), in sociology. Her thesis was on the history of the category of "quartier sensible" (underprivileged areas). Sylvie has been appointed Assistant Professor at the University of Strasbourg in 2004. She was back in the United States as a Visiting Scholar at the Center for European Studies at Harvard from January to June 2007.



**Joseph Walla (B.A. 2006)** writes, “My first coup d’etat. Quite an extraordinary experience -- to get called on a Tuesday night to be notified that the military has taken over the government.” Joseph was a recipient of a national scholarship competition and received the Luce Scholarship which provides for one-year internships in Asia. The scholarship is intended for students whose academic concentration is in anything *except* Asian studies and who have had no previous experience living in Asia. Joseph was selected because of his record of high achievement and outstanding leadership. Last September, Joseph was in Thailand during the military takeover of the government. “I turned on the TV to get the news, but all of the stations have been taken over by the anti-government forces. I understood at that this point how important the media is in taking over a government -- it eliminates information, and thus, any effective reaction. The Asia Foundation told me to stay inside and not to go to work. I went to work to talk to my coworkers about where the main concentrations of soldiers were located. The general message that I got from this conversation and others was that the Coup had enormous support from the population. I met up with some Thai civilians, who helped me get a picture with two soldiers! The next day as I was taking a bus to work, I saw that many of the soldiers were still present on the street, every several blocks. Then the reality of the situation hit me. I felt a tiny twinge of resentment. I caught a small glimpse of what it must feel like living under an occupation; legitimacy or illegitimacy aside, it was a revealing taste of life.”



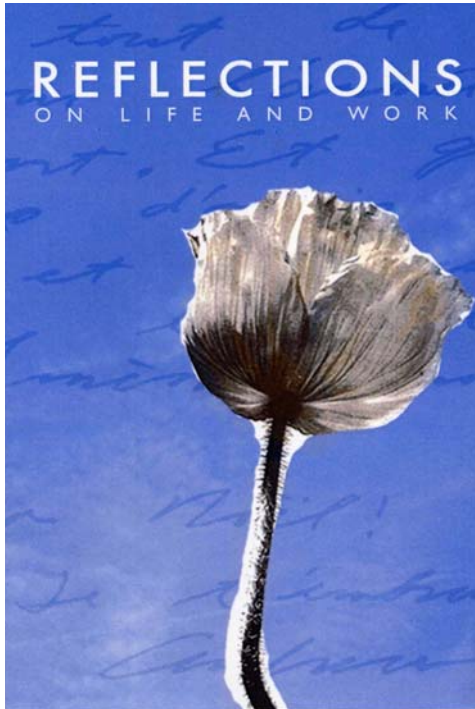
**Kevin Winge’s (B.A. 1982)**, first book, *Never Give Up: Vignettes from Sub-Saharan Africa in the Age of AIDS*, was just released. “As 2006 marks the 25th anniversary of the AIDS pandemic, *Never Give Up: Vignettes from Sub-Saharan Africa in*



*the Age of AIDS* (Syren Book Company) is a timely new book that raises questions about international health issues, cross-cultural experiences, racism, and homophobia. This intimate collection of true stories about the AIDS pandemic is told from the vantage point first of a young man beginning life in New York City in the 1980s to his work today on the frontlines of the pandemic in both the Twin Cities and sub-Saharan Africa. Author Kevin Winge shares his firsthand knowledge of the realities and challenges faced by people living with this devastating disease. While earning his master’s degree from Harvard’s John F. Kennedy School of Government, Winge traveled to the townships outside of Cape Town, South Africa, where he lived and worked with people living with HIV/AIDS. The book chronicles his work through accounts of the people he came in contact with and the experiences he encountered. Based in Minneapolis, Winge is the executive director of Open Arms of Minnesota, a nonprofit organization that provides meals and related services to people with HIV/AIDS. He travels and speaks extensively on the subject of HIV/AIDS and the national and international disparities in access to health care, and makes frequent trips to South Africa where he continues his work to educate and bring hope to people living with HIV/AIDS. In 2006 Open Arms will recognize their 20th anniversary and will also serve their one millionth meal to people in need. All proceeds from the sale of *Never Give Up* benefit Open Arms of Minnesota’s HIV/AIDS programs.”

*The department announces a newly created fellowship, the Andrew Dickinson Fellowship.*

## *Andrew Dickinson Fellowship*



Andrew “Andy” Dickinson was a political science Ph.D. candidate who died in April of 2006. Andy was struck by a car while jogging.

His parents, Stephen Dickinson and Catherine Guisan (Political Science Ph.D. 2000) created a memorial fellowship to honor their son, his work, and his accomplishments. In May of this year, the College of Liberal Arts and the department hosted a reception to introduce the creation of this fellowship.

The recipients of the Andrew “Andy” Dickinson Memorial Fellowship will be full-time graduate students who demonstrate financial need in the Department of Political Science. The fellowship shall be used for payment of tuition, fees, and/or a stipend. Preference will be given to students who share Andrew's desire to connect political theory and practice so as to theorize an ethical conception of international politics that is both innovative and responsive to

concerns of power and oppression on all scales. Menaka Philips, an incoming first-year Ph.D. student, has been selected as the first recipient of this award.

In the spring/summer 2007 edition of *reach*, the magazine for the College of Liberal Arts, there is a must-read article about Andy and the Dickinson-Guisan family. *reach* may be read online on the University's web site at <http://reach.cla.umn.edu>.

You may also make a gift to the Department of Political Science online. Just visit the Department of Political Science's web site at [www.polisci.umn.edu/giving](http://www.polisci.umn.edu/giving).



Andy Dickinson and his mother, Catherine Guisan.