



# POLITICAL SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

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## NEW ADDITION TO POLITICAL SCIENCE PROGRAM

Dr. James F. Pasley joined the Political Science department in August as Associate Professor of Political Science. Dr. Pasley earned a Ph.D. in Political Science in 1999, specializing in International Relations and United States Foreign Policy. His academic background also includes a Master's degree in Defense and Strategic Studies and receipt of the 2000-2001 Fulbright Fellowship on the Information Revolution and International Security. Dr. Pasley also has experience in the subfield of Political Psychology having participated in The Ohio State University's 1996 Summer Institute in Political Psychology.

Dr. Pasley's primary teaching duties will be in the subfields of International Relations and Comparative Politics. He will be adding courses in those areas over the next year. Dr. Pasley has taught at Louisiana State University, Saint Leo University and the University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma (USAO). He earned the 2003-2004 University Regents Award for Superior Teaching while at USAO. Dr. Pasley also served as a 2002 summer faculty member in US foreign policy for The Junior Statesman Foundation at Georgetown.

In addition to his teaching responsibilities, Dr. Pasley will be the collegiate Model UN advisor for Park. He



also has created a chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society, at Park. Dr. Pasley will serve as faculty advisor for Pi Sigma Alpha and the Political Science club. He hopes to expand the visibility of these groups on campus and grow the size of the Political Science program.

## PI SIGMA ALPHA

The National Political Science Honor Society, Pi Sigma Alpha, was brought to Park University in the Fall of 2006. This was made possible by the hard work of Dr. James Pasley of the Political Science Department. The purpose of

this honor society is to bring together students and faculty who are interested in the study of government and politics. Pi Sigma Alpha is the only honor society for college students who are studying in the fields of government and Political Science in the United States.

To be eligible for Pi Sigma Alpha, one must be in at least junior standing currently enrolled in Political Science and must be in the top one-third of the class.

The first members of Alpha Delta Upsilon Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha at Park University are: Kelli Bamforth, Simona Cibotaru, George

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Paya Shafe, Shweta Shrestha, and Billy Williams. The advisor for Pi Sigma Alpha is Dr. James Pasley.

## MIDWEST POLITICAL SCIENCE UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE



Picture Left to Right: Kelli Bamforth, Ashley Watkins, Billy Williams, Crispin Rea, Paya Shafe and Zach James.

In March 2006, six Political Science, Legal Studies and Public Administration students traveled with Dr. Ron Brecke to Mankato, Minnesota to attend the Midwest Political Science Undergraduate Research Conference. Three students from Park University presented papers to panels of their peers and professors. The students who presented were Crispin Rea, Kelli Bamforth and Billy Williams. The other students

who attended and participated in the conference were Zach James, Paya Shafe, and Ashley Watkins.

The annual conference will be held in St. Joseph, Missouri at Northwest Missouri State University in March of 2007.

## A TIME OF CHANGE: NOVEMBER 2006 ELECTION

“A CLOSELY WATCHED ISSUE, STEM CELL RESEARCH, WON APPROVAL BY MISSOURI VOTERS. THE INITIATIVE WON BY ONLY 1% OF THE TOTAL VOTE.”

Last November 7, 2006, Missourians voted on two significant health related issues, an increase on cigarette taxes and a constitutional initiative to permit stem cell research. The cigarette tax of 80 cents a pack was defeated; this is a repeat of the 2002 vote which also defeated the measure. A closely watched issue, stem cell research, won approval by Missouri voters. The ini-

tiative won by only 1% of the total vote.

This is in addition to another closely watched race, that for a U.S. Senate seat. Claire McCaskill (D) edged out Republican Jim Talent. Toting up further local Democratic victories were State Rep. Jason Grill and State Auditor Susan Montee. This is in marked contrast to the typical

domination by Republicans in Platte County. Republicans did, however, secure two positions, that of District 35, State Rep. Doug Ervin and 35 Dist Senate Seat, Charlie Shields

## ALUMNI PLAN TRIP TO POLAND



Dr. Jerzy Hauptmann

Park University Alumni will be traveling to Poland, where Professor Emeritus Dr. Jerzy Hauptmann lived in his younger years. The group will be traveling to Warsaw, Krakow, Lodz (Hauptmann's hometown) and many other places.

Dr. Hauptmann joined the Park University faculty in

1951, teaching Political Science and Public Administration. Upon his retirement in 2001, the graduate school named its Master of Public Affairs program the Hauptmann School of Public Affairs.

Tentative dates for the trip are July 26 through August 4, 2007. For more information,

please contact the Alumni Office at

[alumnioffice@park.edu](mailto:alumnioffice@park.edu).

## POLITICAL SCIENCE CLUB

The Political Science Club has been very active since the beginning of the Fall 2006 semester. Members helped with History students to coordinate voter registration. Students on campus could stop by the voter registration table, and register right there!

During Halloween time, members also made a Balloon Booth for Fright Night, Park University's community service project. With a very large turnout, kids were given

candy and balloons while the parents received information on the November 2006 election and the local candidates.

The Political Science Club has many more activities and fundraisers planned.

If you're interested in becoming a member of Political Science Club, please send an e-mail to

[ashley.watkins@park.edu](mailto:ashley.watkins@park.edu)



Pictured above: Political Science Club member, Paya Shafe working the Voter Registration Table with History member Jason Potter.

## FORMER CIA GUEST SPEAKER

Former CIA analyst Ray McGovern presented to full crowd in the Meetin' House at Park University. The title of his lectures, "Iraq: How We Got In, How we Get Out," was hosted by the Department of Social Sciences on October 4, 2006.

McGovern served 27 years as a CIA analyst. During the lecture, he discussed some of

the things he encountered while working for the CIA and his views of the war in Iraq. He addressed questions from the audience, and then promoted his books.



Ray McGovern

"IRAQ:  
HOW WE  
GOT IN,  
HOW WE  
GET OUT"

## MODEL UN

Model UN is an opportunity for Park University students to participate in debates that are focused on international diplomacy. The Model UN team traveled to New York in March and went to Chicago in November of 2006. The team attends these debates annually.

Starting in the 2007-2008

school year, Park will have a team of 18 students. The advisor beginning in the Fall of 2007 will be Dr. James Pasley, a professor for the Political Science department. They will also be attending one of the debates in either Chicago or New York.

If anyone is interested in joining Model UN, contact Dr.

Pasley at

[james.pasley@park.edu](mailto:james.pasley@park.edu). In the Fall of 2007, students will be earning credit for Model UN through PO342: The United Nations.

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[WWW.PARK.EDU/POLITICALSCIENCE](http://WWW.PARK.EDU/POLITICALSCIENCE)

Take a look...



## LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

On October 24, 2006, Park University's Social Science Department, along with the League of Women Voters, hosted a candidate forum. The forum's purpose was to educate voters about who was running, and what stance they took on today's most controversial issues. Candidates in attendance included: Erik Buck (L), Sam Graves (R), Sara Jo Shettles (D), and Shirley Yurkonis (P) for Missouri's 6<sup>th</sup> District House of Representatives; for Missouri's Senate 34<sup>th</sup> District: David Mason (D), and Charlie Shields (R); for Missouri's 30<sup>th</sup> District House of Representatives: Jared Welch (D);

finally, for Missouri's 32<sup>nd</sup> District House of Representatives: John DeStefano (R), and Jason Grill (D). The League of Women Voters is "a nonpartisan political organization that encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy"



## SOCIAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

The 2006-2007 school year brought a new department to Park University. The Department of Social Sciences will include the majors and programs of anthropology, history, legal studies, military sciences, peace studies, philosophy, political science, public administration, religion, and social sciences. The Department Chairperson is Timothy Westcott, Ph.D., who has over 25 years of experience. To contact Dr. Westcott, e-mail him at [timothy.westcott@park.edu](mailto:timothy.westcott@park.edu) or by phone, (816) 584-6346.