

PostScript



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Alumni News

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

The 2005 Distinguished Alumni Award was presented to Jan Allen at the department's Undergraduate Awards Reception on June 11, 2005, in the Fawcett Center. Ms. Allan holds a bachelor's degree in political science, a master's degree in social work, and a juris doctor from Moritz Law, all from Ohio State. She has had careers as a lawyer, social worker, and public relations professional. She is a veteran of government and politics, having served as a top aide to former Governor Richard Celeste and as an informal advisor on numerous political campaigns. She has been very active at Ohio State, working with several campus organizations. She currently coaches leaders and emerging leaders as director of the Field Center and as a professional certified coach.



2004-2005 Distinguished Alumna Jan Allen

ALUMNI NEWS

James L. Caplinger (B.A. 1960) and his wife Carol maintain residences in Pennsylvania and Ohio. James does management consulting and practices law, the latter in Ohio alone. He serves on the board of North Hill Apartments, Inc., and Public Entities Pool of Ohio, an insurance pool for local governments. He is writing on the use of native plants as preferable to invasive plants from a legal viewpoint.

Kevin R. Kosar (B.A. 1993) completed his Ph.D. in politics from New York University in 2003 and is an analyst in American national government for the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress.

Mark Lombardi (Ph.D. 1989) has been named president of the College of Santa Fe in New Mexico. He previously served as provost there.

Phillip E. Parisi (B.A. 1967) has been an Ohio Assistant Attorney General (1973-76), commissioner of the Ohio Court of Claims (1976-83 and 1984-200), judge of the Cleveland Municipal Court (1983-84), and an attorney in private practice (1976-83, 1984-present).

Christine Parthemore (B.A. 2003) works in Washington, D.C., as an assistant for journalist Bob Woodward. When Mark Felt revealed that he was "Deep Throat" of Watergate notoriety, Woodward, with Parthemore's help, rushed to print a book that Woodward had written in case Felt came forward.

Dr. Brian Scott Porshinsky (B.A. 1991) graduated from the Medical College of Ohio in June 1999. He completed residency in general surgery in June 2004 at MCO and is engaged in a fellowship in plastic surgery at the University of Illinois, Chicago.

James Ryan (B.A. 1969) writes: "Having grown up in the south end of Columbus and gaining entry to Ohio State on a work/study grant in the political science department, my training there has enabled me to be a laborer, carpenter, painter, bartender, restaurant owner, fry-cook, stand-up comic, musician, and fanzine writer. I started out with nothing and still have most of it left!"

Paul E. Schroeder (M.A. 1981, Ph.D. 1987) is the managing director of East-West Trade Development, Ltd., now in its 10th year.

Dan Shaban (B.A. 1979) was appointed judge for the superior court for the State of Connecticut on May 6, 2004, after 22 years of private practice as an attorney. He was named one of 50 outstanding volunteers among judges and attorneys for pro bono service in the legal profession and served on the Connecticut Bar Association's Board of Governors in 2003-2004.

WINTER 2006

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

PostScript

Number 4 in the world, number 13 in the United States, and number 5 at public universities—heartening recognition of the strength of Ohio State’s political science department.



Professor Herb Weisberg,
Chair

I should begin this letter by introducing myself. While I am a rookie department chair, having just taken the gavel on July 1, I am a veteran member of our department, having taught here for 31 years. My teaching and research areas are American politics and political methodology, with a concentration on voting behavior and survey research. I came here with academic degrees from two other Big Ten schools (which are best left unnamed, except to admit that both start with the letter “M”), but I am pleased to be able to report that my wife and our son are both proud graduates of Ohio State.

Our department has long been strong, and we continue to move up in national rankings. *U.S. News and World Report* periodically asks political science faculty around the country to rate Ph.D.-producing departments. We were 15th in the nation in the 2001 survey, and we have moved up to 13th in the 2005 ranking. Furthermore, several of the fields in our department were ranked by *U.S. News*—American Politics was ranked 5th in the nation; International Relations, 12th; and Political Methodology, 10th. The *U.S. News* rankings also move us up to the top 5 political science departments at public universities, joining three University of California campuses and one at a “school up north.” The department received one other important accolade in 2005. Simon Hix, of the London School of Economics, rates political science departments in the world according to the extent to which the scholarly books and papers of their faculty are cited by other faculty. We were 9th in the world in his 2003 report, and we moved up further to 4th in 2005. Number 4 in the world, number 13 in the United States, and number 5 at public universities—heartening recognition of the strength of Ohio State’s political science department.

While it is heartening for our department to be so highly

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Letter from the Chair

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Our graduate program is now in competition with the nation's top research universities for new students. Our graduates have taken faculty positions in recent years in many of the nation's best universities and liberal arts colleges...

rated by our colleagues across the country, we are even more proud of our impressive students. We have been growing at a tremendous rate at the undergraduate level. We had fewer than 400 majors a few years ago, and we now have over 1,300, with more than 200 honors students. Our enrollment figures have gone up an astounding 48% over the last five years. Our internship program is growing, with about 100 of our students serving yearly as interns in Columbus, in Washington, and elsewhere. At the graduate level, another strong class of Ph.D. students

joined us this fall from across this country and from a variety of other countries. Meanwhile, another class of students have received their Ph.D.s and gone on to professorial positions at such diverse universities as the University of North Texas, the University of Illinois Chicago, and James Madison University.

Our department has now grown to 40 faculty members. The most recent addition, joining us in January 2006, is Luke Keele, an expert in political methodology with a focus on American politics. Keele is joining us after spending two years on a postdoctoral fellowship at Oxford University. At the same time, we have experienced one retirement: Randall ("Rip") Ripley, who served as our department chair from 1969 through 1991 and then served as dean of our college until summer 2004.

There are several further changes in the department. Greg Caldeira is the newly appointed Ann and Darrell Dreher Chair in Political Communication and Policy Thinking, with a joint appointment in the law school. Marcus Kurtz now directs the department's lab, Bill Liddle is the new director of Undergraduate Studies, Larry Baum is our honors coordinator, and Tom Nelson is our Undergraduate Research coordinator. Goldie Shabad continues to handle the duties of director of Graduate Studies.

As happens each year, some of our faculty are on leave with prestigious national fellowships. Clarissa Hayward is at the Institute for Advanced Studies in Princeton, while Harwood McClerking is on the second year of a Robert Wood Johnson Fellowship at Michigan.

Several of our faculty have received important national recognitions. Greg Caldeira is the president-elect of the Midwest Political Science Association, and Kira Sanbonmatsu is co-program chair for the 2007 annual meetings of the Midwest Political Science Association. Our longtime chair and current dean Paul Allen Beck received the prestigious Frank Goodnow Award by APSA for distinguished service to the profession. Larry Baum received the Law and Courts Section of APSA's Teaching and Mentoring Award. And a survey of International Relations scholars chose Alex Wendt as among the three most influential IR scholars in the last 20 years.

Ohio State has this past year recognized the special achievements of two of our faculty. Paul Beck received the

university's Distinguished Scholar Award for his research accomplishments. Beck joins political science Professors Greg Caldeira and Larry Baum and emeritus professors Samuel Patterson and Bradley Richardson in receiving this important honor. Richard Gunther received a Faculty Award for Distinguished University Service and was named a Joan N. Huber Faculty Fellow by SBS for his scholarly writings. Additionally, Larry Baum last year won the Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching, the university's top teaching award.

This fall has seen the return to the department of three of our distinguished alumni, though under unfortunate circumstances. Three of our department's Ph.D.s were on the faculty of the University of New Orleans when Hurricane Katrina hit. They all have made it back up to Columbus, with their families, and we have been pleased to be able to do our part to help those uprooted by the hurricane. Andrew Holbrook had just taken his first job at UNO, bought a house down there, and taught three classes when he came back to Columbus to receive his diploma at the summer graduation ceremony. He was still in Columbus the next day when Katrina hit. With his house flooded, he resigned from UNO, began teaching for us this year, and is looking for another academic job for next fall. Susan Howell had been at UNO for 29 years and Steve Shull for 31 years when the hurricane hit. They currently have offices in Derby Hall, teaching courses through the Internet this fall, and are waiting to hear about their university's arrangements for winter term.

Our graduate program is now in competition with the nation's top research universities for new students. Our graduates have taken faculty positions in recent years in many of the nation's best universities and liberal arts colleges, including Harvard, Yale, Rochester, North Carolina, Virginia, Wisconsin, Bucknell, Wittenberg, Brigham Young, James Madison, Penn State, and Wesleyan. Several others have gone on to work with the Federal Government, including the Department of Defense and the Central Intelligence Agency.

The department continues to benefit from fund-raising efforts so that our programs can be even stronger than they would be otherwise, now that state funding has been declining. In cooperation with the Mershon Center, we have hired John Mueller to fill Mershon's Woody Hayes Chair in National Security. A professorship in honor of the late Vernal Riffe, longtime Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives, was endowed, and Jan Box-Steffensmeier is our first Vernal Riffe Professor. Ann and Darrell Dreher endowed the Chair in Political Communication and Policy Thinking that Greg Caldeira now fills. In memory of Madison Scott, a distinguished and especially beloved alumnus of the department, a fund has been created to support the educational activities of minority students in the department, and Scott Grants are now awarded annually. The generosity of former students and friends has been one of the highlights of recent years, and we have deeply appreciated their contributions to support the department.

Thus, the department continues to change, but we continue to value the accomplishments of our faculty, the excellence of our students, and the loyalty of our alums. Thanks for joining together with us as we move into the future.



Herb Weisberg
Professor and Chair

Hurricane Katrina Brings Alumni Back to Ohio State

On Sunday, August 28, 2005, Andrew Holbrook attended Ohio State's commencement, earning his

Ph.D. in political science. He was already teaching at the University of New Orleans (UNO) and had been there about a month. In April, Andrew's wife and he bought a house near the UNO campus, and they were settling in nicely with their cat, C.C. So, although his official employment documents were not yet processed at UNO, things were shaping up pretty well.

At least they would have been, if it weren't for Hurricane Katrina. By the time September 1 arrived, it was clear—satellite photos being available online—that the Holbrook's house was flooded out. UNO, to the extent its authorities could be found, was in disarray, even chaos. So Andrew's future had become ambiguous, at best. He and his wife had hopes that C.C. was in the care of their neighbors, but they couldn't tell for sure, since the neighbors themselves could not be found.

But also by September 1, the political science staff—wondering aloud to one another “How can we help?”—realized that we could indeed assist the Holbrooks through their hard times. We found we had a clear answer: we tracked Andrew down at his father's house in Dayton and asked if he wanted to teach in Columbus in autumn quarter. As a graduate student, Andrew was among our best teachers, earning every teaching award that the department and the university offer graduate students.

And even though we had no help to offer poor C.C.,

another friend of the Holbrooks did. An Ohio State classmate of Andrew's knew Ohio National Guard Major Brian Tackett, who was on assignment for rescue operations in New Orleans. After going to the Holbrooks' house three times, Major Tackett was finally able to get inside and find a very unhappy C.C., who is also now back in Columbus, reunited with his family.



Andrew Holbrook, Ph.D.
August 2005

Susan Howell's (Ph.D. 1976) work as director of UNO's Survey Research Center has provided her with a clear and detailed understanding of hurricane evacuation plans. She has always taken evacuation orders very seriously, and, since Katrina was to be her fourth evacuation, she urged her husband to leave early—although she also expected to return home soon. They left low-lying New Orleans and their brand new house, staying one night with friends north of the city. The storm kept driving them inland, and, Howell says, “We spent the next two weeks crossing the South, expecting to return home any time.”

As she realized that a return home was not forthcoming, she also happened to speak with her colleague Steve Shull, who had already come north and who told her of his welcome here at the university. “We have lost our home, all our belongings, and other property,” Howell says, “but Ohio State has been incredibly generous. We've been able to get an apartment, and the department has given me an office and access to resources so I can work. Without Ohio State's generosity, I couldn't have finished my book.”



Professor Susan Howell,
University of New Orleans, in her temporary office in Derby Hall.

Finishing *Race, Performance, and Approval of Mayors*

(Palgrave/MacMillan) gives Howell something normal in circumstances where the notion of normal is nearly lost. She plans to return to UNO for its winter term, but she'll live in a FEMA trailer—UNO has 400 of them in which to house university employees. Howell has been back to her home, but she had to wear a mask, gloves, and boots to do so.

Even with all these trials, both behind and ahead, Howell looks forward to starting new research. “Everyone's lifestyle has been lost and will take years to recover, if they can be recovered at all,” she says. “I see families, friends, and even strangers in New Orleans living together, working and helping each other, living simpler lives. They are growing closer and depending more on each other.” Howell plans her new research to look into that very phenomenon. She'll be doing a citizen recovery survey series “to find people's needs and to give citizens working together a voice.”

Their homes are all destroyed, and their lives and expectations have been overthrown. They have faced serious challenges and have seen unexpected good fortune in the midst of crisis.

Steven Shull (Ph.D. 1974), his wife Janice, their daughter Amanda, their newlywed son Teddy and his wife Dayana, and their dog Dana all piled into an SUV for the mandatory New Orleans



Steve Shull will begin teaching at Ohio State in winter quarter 2006.

evacuation. Ten days on the road took them to Houston and back to Louisiana, but at that that point they felt they were out of travel destinations.

At that time, universities other than Ohio State had expressed interest in

HURRICANE KATRINA from page 3

taking in newly nomadic UNO faculty, but the UNO evacuees had to be wary of organizations who might be poaching—hiring UNO’s professoriate while that university was desperate. But at the same moment, Elliott Slotnick, professor of political science and associate dean of Ohio State’s Graduate School, was tracking Shull down. Slotnick had come to Ohio State from UNO in the 70s, and he knew that the Shulls would need some help. Eventually, he found them and put our new chair Herb Weisberg and our new dean Paul Beck in touch with them. After some consideration, they offered a base of operations to Shull and later to Susan Howell.

Slotnick, in the meantime, assisted the Holbrooks, the Shulls, and the Howells by helping them find housing at Olentangy Village apartments. In the end, Olentangy Village had 10 new families arriving from New Orleans. And Slotnick helped our UNO colleagues register with the Red Cross and get situated in town. Teddy Shull’s employer was able to find a position for him in Columbus, and Amanda Shull has found an internship in New York City.

Andrew Holbrook has resigned from UNO and was able to accept a teaching position at Ohio State for the year; he has also returned to the American politics, media, and political communication job market. Steve Shull and Susan Howell, being full professors with tenure, had to be more cautious not to allow well-intentioned conflicts of interest to arise out of the flood. Shull is now finalizing his retirement from UNO and will begin teaching here at Ohio State in January. Howell, as noted previously, will return to UNO to pursue her research. Their homes are all destroyed, and their lives and expectations have been overthrown. They have faced serious challenges and have seen unexpected good fortune in the midst of crisis. But our UNO colleagues have also found a place of stability in Derby Hall from which to begin their long journeys to new lives.

Roberts, Miers, and Alito: The Selection of Supreme Court Justices

—by Professor Larry Baum

The formal rules for selection of Supreme Court justices in the Constitution are simple: the president makes a nomination, and the Senate decides whether to confirm the nominee by a simple majority. The actual selection process is considerably more complicated. President Bush’s three nominations and the fates of the first two highlight those complications.

The actual selection process has varied considerably over time. During the past half century, presidents have selected nominees with greater care, and the Senate has given those nominees greater scrutiny than in some earlier periods. The primary reason for this change is an increase in the perceived importance of the Supreme Court’s work, an increase that resulted from the Court’s involvement in controversial issues such as school segregation, abortion, and the death penalty. Even more than in the past, people in politics came to believe that the Court’s decisions have powerful effects on national life. Meanwhile, there has been substantial growth in the activity of interest groups, including groups that care about the courts’ work and thus try to influence the selection of Supreme Court justices.

In the current era, presidents and members of their administrations devote considerable effort to the task of choosing justices, closely examining the records of prospective nominees. Presidents try to choose nominees who share their own views about desirable judicial policy as well as the views of interest groups associated with their party. The attention given to this choice has become especially intense for Republican presidents, because several Republican appointees to the Court since 1969 turned out to be less conservative than expected.

In selecting nominees, presidents have to take the Senate into account. The higher

level of scrutiny that the Senate gives to nominees in the current era is reflected in the defeats of four nominees in the past half century and hard-fought victories for some others. William Rehnquist received 33 negative votes when President Reagan nominated him to be chief justice in 1986, and Clarence Thomas was confirmed by a 52-48 margin in 1991. For this reason, presidents sometimes pass over potential nominees because those nominees might run into difficulties in the Senate. Yet presidents retain a real advantage in the process because there is a presumption in favor of confirming a nominee. Further, there is a widespread feeling that simple disagreement with a nominee’s views about legal policy is insufficient to justify voting against confirmation.

For these reasons, senators and interest group leaders who disagree with a nominee on ideological grounds try to find other grounds on which to oppose the nominee. Sometimes they charge that a nominee lacks sufficient competence to serve on the Supreme Court. More often, they allege unethical behavior of some type on the nominee’s part. With one exception, the nominees who lost in the Senate since 1968 were vulnerable on one or both of those grounds. The exception was Robert Bork, a 1987 Reagan nominee who was charged with being so conservative that his views were “out of the mainstream.”

Bork faced a Democratic majority in the Senate, and that was an important factor in his defeat. The chances of defeat for a nominee are far greater when the president’s party lacks a Senate majority. The sheer number of senators in the opposition party is important, but also important is the control that comes with majority status—presiding over hearings in the Judiciary Committee, scheduling a floor vote on the nominee.

This brings us to the three recent nominees. When Justice O'Connor announced her retirement, there was considerable debate about whether President Bush should choose a relatively moderate conservative similar to O'Connor or a strong conservative similar to Thomas and Antonin Scalia. A moderate conservative would be less vulnerable to Senate defeat. But most considerations worked in favor of a strong conservative: interest groups with ties to the president and the Republican Party very much wanted a strong conservative, and Bush himself had indicated a similar preference.

The higher level of scrutiny that the Senate gives to nominees in the current era is reflected in the defeats of four nominees in the past half century and hard-fought victories for some others.

The strong conservatives from whom President Bush could choose differed in various ways. Judge Roberts was attractive for several reasons. First, his record indicated that he was strongly conservative in his views, reassuring the president and other conservatives, but those views did not seem so conservative that he could be tagged with the "out of the mainstream" label. His legal ability was unquestionable, and there were no indications of any ethical problems. As a bonus, he was an articulate advocate who was likely to give a favorable impression at the Senate hearings. Thus it is understandable that Roberts received the nomination. It is also understandable that, when Chief Justice Rehnquist died, President Bush nominated Roberts to succeed him rather than Justice O'Connor.

Roberts's selection put many Democratic senators in a difficult position. Liberal interest groups urged opposition to Roberts because of his views, and liberal Democrats in the Senate were themselves concerned about those views. But there did not seem to be a good basis for opposing Roberts beyond his ideological position. And in a Senate with a 10-vote Republican majority it was difficult to imagine that he could be defeated unless some very surprising and very negative information about him came to light. None did, and the Democrats split almost evenly on confirmation. With favorable votes from all Republicans, Roberts was confirmed by a 78-22 margin. Although they did not produce a close outcome, the 22 Democratic votes against Roberts underlined the growth in conflict over Supreme Court appointments.

Harriet Miers, nominated to succeed Justice O'Connor after Roberts' confirmation, differed considerably from the new chief justice and from the other nominees to the Court in the last three decades. She was the first nominee since 1971 who had not served on a lower court, and she was the first since the 1960s who had worked closely with the nominating president (as White House Counsel). Because of those attributes, the president could be confident that he understood Miers' views on important legal and policy issues, but senators who might be inclined to oppose her had little information with which to ascertain those views.

Miers ran into substantial opposition, undoubtedly more than she or President Bush had expected. Critics charged that the president's choice of Miers was a case of "cronyism," and they also argued that her legal expertise and accomplishments were insufficient to merit appointment to the highest court. The most striking characteristic of the opposition to Miers was its source. Most of the strongest critics were conservatives, and the most important reason for their opposition was a concern that Miers might not take strongly conservative positions as a justice. Democrats in the Senate largely stood aside as Republicans in and out of

the Senate debated Miers' candidacy. The growing breadth and depth of conservative opposition to the nominee seems to be the primary reason that she withdrew from consideration.

That withdrawal required President Bush to make a third nomination to the Court. Acting at a time when he was relatively weak politically, the president once again would have to decide what he wanted from a nominee. In particular, by picking one nominee rather than another he would effectively choose whether to risk conflict with Senate Democrats or with conservative Republicans. In nominating Samuel Alito, a court of appeals judge with a clearly conservative record, the president made a clear choice. He may have sought out a conflict with Senate Democrats with the nomination, but it is more likely that he hoped Alito would make the same impression as Roberts and thus win relatively easy confirmation.

Like the Roberts nomination, the Alito nomination creates a dilemma for Senate Democrats. Liberal interest groups are especially unhappy with this nomination because of the stands that Alito has taken on issues such as abortion, and some of those groups will push for a higher level of opposition than the Roberts nomination received. Further, the president's political weakness may encourage Democrats to oppose him. But Alito starts out with at least most of the advantages that Roberts enjoyed, and an all-out Democratic effort to defeat him might be both futile and politically disadvantageous. In January we will learn how Senate Democrats resolve this dilemma, and we will also learn more about the politics of selecting Supreme Court justices in the current era.

A Brief History of the Polimetrics Lab / Political Research Lab

The polimetrics lab was officially established at Ohio State during the 1969-70 academic year under the leadership of department chair Randall Ripley and the first polimetrics director C. Richard Hofstetter.

The lab has evolved in many ways since the early days of its first poll on the campus oval during the riots of spring 1970. It began with a data processing section (staffed by a young Jim Ludwig), the data archive that made ICPSR data available on campus, and a computation section that performed statistical analysis. The poll of faculty, staff, and students was begun by the lab in the early 1970s, then moved to the behavioral sciences lab, and then moved back to polimetrics. Stu Thorson instituted a simulation section during the mid-1970s, while Tom Nelson added a new “experimental lab” in the mid-1990s.

The lab has seen a succession of directors, with Stu Thorson taking over as head in 1976, followed by Kristi Andersen in 1981. The longest consecutive service was by Aage Clausen, from 1984 through 1993, who was responsible for such key developments as moving to computer-assisted telephone interviewing, setting up the political analysis lab (PAL), and establishing *LabNotes* as a newsletter for communication with department faculty, staff, and graduate students.

Lab facilities have changed dramatically during this period. Its beginning was in old University Hall, but it soon moved with the department to Derby Hall. It saw bleak surroundings in Neil Hall when the department moved there in 1991 while Derby was being renovated. The department moved back to Derby in 1993, with considerably improved facilities. PAL became the location for grad students to have access to fast personal computers. Additionally, the lab became responsible for a state-of-the-art computerized classroom in the basement of Derby.

Herb Weisberg became lab director in 1993. In the fall of 1995 the College

of Social and Behavioral Sciences (SBS) convened a committee of faculty interested in surveys across several departments, including political science, economics, psychology, communication, and sociology. The result was moving the polimetrics survey operation in summer 1996 to a new college Survey Research Unit (SRU), which eventually became the Center for Survey Research (CSR) under the direction, first, of Paul Lavrakas and then of Jerry Kosicki, both from the School of Journalism/Communication. The participating departments, including political science, each contributed one to three graduate research assistants to the survey center. An important part of the new center was an academic training program for graduate students, with students receiving certification on their

The lab has seen vast changes in technology. It started in the days of punched computer cards, the counter-sorter, and pencil-and-paper questionnaires, long before anyone imagined desktop computers or computer-assisted telephone interviewing.

diplomas after taking a required set of courses. Another cornerstone of the new center was the monthly Buckeye State Poll (BSP) taken for the *Columbus Dispatch* from 1996 through 2002. Unfortunately, the recession caused the *Dispatch* to withdraw its financial support for the BSP, which ultimately led to the college’s closing the telephone survey operation in mid-2004. The CSR now functions as an academic training program, sponsoring a monthly speaker series as well as summer research awards for graduate students.

When the survey operation moved out of polimetrics, the lab was renamed the political research lab. Its mission has become research support for the department, including computer support,

maintenance of the computer network, development of the web page, running the human subjects pool for the experimental lab, operating PAL and the undergraduate computer classroom, and maintaining the 150+ computers the department owns.

Tom Nelson followed as lab director in 1999, serving through 2002. Rich Timpone became director that summer, but decided to take a position in private industry early that fall, at which point Herb Weisberg began a return stint as lab director from 2002 to 2005. With Herb’s recent move to department chair, Marcus Kurtz took over as lab director in summer 2005.

The lab has seen vast changes in technology. It started in the days of punched computer cards, the counter-sorter, and pencil-and-paper questionnaires, long before anyone imagined desktop computers or computer-assisted telephone interviewing. Using the computer originally meant bringing jobs on computer cards over to the Computing Center in the top of Baker Systems Engineering and then waiting several hours for printed output. The department first bought desktop computers in 1984,

with Phil Stewart buying the department’s first NESTAR computer network in the days before computer networks were common. The original PCs lasted for nearly a decade.

Department chairs Randall Ripley and Paul Beck obtained university funding for new rounds of computers—first Compaq and NEC 386s, then Columbus MicroSystem 486s, followed by an assortment of Dells,



Marcus Kurtz, director of the political research lab

Thanks

TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS

The Department of Political Science wants to thank all of our alumni and friends who have donated to us this year. Your gifts help us improve the quality of our work in innumerable ways, and your generosity serves as an inspiration to everyone in the department.

Susan Alvarado, B.A. 1975
 Dr. Lawrence Baum
 Dr. Paul Beck
 Dr. Thomas Boyd, M.A. 1981, Ph.D. 1983
 Norman Carpenter, B.A. 1997
 Dr. John Clark, Ph.D. 1992
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 Lorraine Seymour, B.A. 1985
 Maureen Sharkey
 Janet Steffensmeier
 Richard Stoddard, B.A. 1966
 Elinor Swiger, B.A. 1949
 Dr. James Thomas Jr., Ph.D. 1958
 Herbert Weisberg
 Sandra Wood



Students, staff, and directors of the lab from years past

Gateways, and HPs. The original NESTAR network was replaced by a 3COM/ LanManager system, which was replaced by a Banyan network, then a Novell network, and, in summer 2005, by Microsoft Windows Server.

The lab has benefited immensely from highly talented professional staff. Craig Hill was hired to run the survey unit before he left for RTI, after which Kathleen Carr was hired and moved the operation to computer-assisted telephone interviewing. Office managers Nora Groves and Jodi Renshaw kept track of the interviewers and the finances. Jim Ludwig was the computer wizard that made the operation work for several decades until he retired in 2002. James Norman joined the unit as a

computer person in 1995 and was network manager until he left in 2005. The current computer staff includes two veterans of Ohio State's Computer Center—Bill Miller and Fred Crouner—and David Sweasey, whose previous work included running the computer support system for the university president's office.

Lab alumni have assumed leadership and responsible positions in a wide variety of positions. They have formed survey and consulting firms in the private settings, directed survey operations and political research labs in colleges and universities, contributed their analytic and management skills at all levels of government, and conducted research and provided statistical training in academic teaching positions.

Make a Gift to the Department of Political Science

University funds are always scarce, so the successes of the Department of Political Science—the support of important scholarship, the education of our undergraduate and graduate students, the presence of visiting speakers and distinguished scholars on campus—are all supported more and more by the generosity of our alumni.

We invite you to make a gift to the department through one of our existing funds, which we describe below. Please use the tear-off return card on page 10 to indicate the fund to which you are donating.

And also please let us know about yourself, so we can share with your colleagues in our next issue (see page 9).

Political Science funding opportunities

Jacobina Aman Award

Established January 12, 1959, with a bequest from Katherine A. Seibert in memory of her mother. Income provides a student award recognizing good will, understanding, and practical cooperation in international affairs and/or race relations among fellow students.

Francis R. Aumann Fund

Established February 4, 1983, by alumni, friends, and associates of Dr. Aumann, professor emeritus. Income rewards scholastic excellence of political science students and promotes academic goals of the Department of Political Science.

William Jennings Bryan Prize

Established July 20, 1898, by Mr. Bryan. Income supports a prize for the best essay on *The Principles Which Underlie Our Form of Government*. If no prize is awarded, income is reinvested to principal.

Lawrence J.R. Herson Fund

Established May 7, 1999, by alumni, friends, and associates of Professor Herson, in honor of his retirement and distinguished career in the Department

of Political Science. Income enhances academic goals of the department and promotes scholarly excellence among political science majors.

Madison H. Scott Memorial Fund in Political Science

Established April 4, 1997, by family, alumni, friends, and associates of Mr. Scott, former vice president for human resources and former secretary of the Board of Trustees. Income provides research grants and scholarships for minorities in the Department of Political Science.

Walter J. Shepard Foundation

Established June 30, 1936, by friends of Dean Shepard. Income supports lectures by distinguished scholars in political science.

Henry Russell Spencer Fund in Political Science

Established July 11, 1949, by friends, colleagues, and former students of Professor Spencer. Income supports lectures or fellowships in political science.

Harvey Walker Sr. Memorial Fund in Political Science

Established September 8, 1972, by family, colleagues, and friends. Income funds fellowships for outstanding students in political science for purposes of advancing the study of political science.

Political Science Advancement Fund

At the discretion of the chair, the income from this fund is used to support student and faculty educational activities for the advancement of the department.

Political Science Development Fund

At the discretion of the chair, this fund's income is used for teaching, research, faculty travel and recruitment, student aid, public service, publications, and other similar purposes.



Political science senior Arielle Williams, Department of State intern in spring and summer 2005, in the White House press room.

ARIELLE WILLIAMS' STATE DEPARTMENT INTERNSHIP

In January 2005, Ohio State senior and political science major Arielle Williams embarked on an adventure of her own making. In autumn 2004, following an attempt to be hired as an intern at the White House, Arielle was contacted by the U.S. Department of State and was asked to be interviewed for an internship position there. Subsequently, she was hired as an intern in the White House Liaison Office of the U.S. State Department. Initially intended to be a one-quarter assignment, Arielle was offered the position through spring and summer quarters and served until August 12, 2005. During her seven-month stay in D.C., Arielle was afforded many unique opportunities, including a meeting with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and a tour of the White House memorialized by the photograph of her behind the podium of the White House Press Secretary.

Arielle's political science major focuses on international relations; she is also pursuing a minor in Arabic.

FACULTY AND GRADUATES WIN AWARDS AT APSA

Several Ohio State faculty members and Ph.D.s won section awards at the APSA meetings in Washington, D.C., in September 2005. They include:

Greg Caldeira, Kevin McGuire (Ph.D., now at UNC), and **Charles Smith** (Ph.D., now at Mississippi), winning the American Judicature Society Award for the best paper on law and courts presented at the previous year's annual meetings.

Kevin McGuire and **Jim Stimson**, winning the McGraw-Hill Award for the best journal article on laws and courts written by a political scientist and published during the previous calendar year.

Larry Baum, winning the Law and Courts Section's Teaching and Mentoring Award.

Barry Burden (Ph.D., now at Harvard), co-recipient of the Emerging Scholars Award from the Political Organizations and Parties Section.

Lianjiang Li (Ph.D., now at Hong Kong Baptist University) and **Kevin O'Brien**, co-recipients of the Sage Best Paper Award for their paper in the field of comparative politics presented at the previous year's APSA annual meeting.

Alex Wendt, Among Most Influential International Relations Scholars

A recent survey by Susan Peterson and Michael Tierney of the College of William and Mary titled, "Teaching and Research Practices, View on the Discipline, and Policy Attitudes of International Relations Faculty at U.S. Colleges and Universities," has ranked Alex Wendt among the most important scholars of that field. The survey included questions asking over 2,000 current scholars in international relations to list those individuals (1) whose work has had the greatest impact on the field over the past 20 years, (2) who have been doing the most interesting work in recent years, and (3) whose work has most profoundly affected their own research and thinking about international relations. Professor Wendt was the only individual among the top five in each category, and he was ranked third, second, and fourth, respectively.



Professor Alex Wendt

Gregory Caldeira Is President-Elect of the Midwest Political Science Association

Professor Gregory Caldeira—an Ohio State faculty member who works in the fields of judicial processes in the United States and Europe, organized interests, and American political institutions—is the president-elect of the Midwest Political Science Association. In addition to this honor, Professor Caldeira has recently accepted the Ann and Darrell Dreher Chair in Political Communication and Policy Thinking in the Department of Political Science, as well as a joint appointment as a professor of law at Ohio State's Moritz College of Law. He is also a recent recipient of the university's Distinguished Scholar Award.

Kira Sanbonmatsu Is Co-Program Chair of 2007 Midwest Political Science Association Meetings

Professor Kira Sanbonmatsu has been chosen as co-program chair of the 2007 Midwest Political Science Association annual meetings. She works in the area of American politics, including gender, race/ethnicity, political parties, public opinion, elections, and state politics.

Paul Beck Wins APSA Goodnow Award

Dean Paul Beck was awarded the American Political Science Association's Frank Goodnow Award for Distinguished Service to the Profession at the APSA meetings in early September 2005. In addition to his service at Ohio State, he has always been very active in APSA and other national political science organizations. He has been book review editor of the *American Political Science Review*; was on the APSA Professional Ethics, Rights, and Freedoms Committee and chaired its Education Committee; was APSA program chair; was on the APSA Task Force on the Annual Meeting; and was on the Executive Committee of its Centennial Campaign and chaired its Strategic Planning Committee. He also has been chair of the APSA Organized Section on Elections, Public Opinion, and Voting Behavior and has chaired the APSA's Heinz Eulau Award Committee. Beyond APSA, he has been program chair for the Midwest Political Science Association annual meetings, chaired the Executive Council of the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research, and has served on the Political Science Panel of the National Science Foundation.

Herb Weisberg Is New Department Chair

Professor Herb Weisberg became the eighth chair in the history of the department when he took the position on July 1, 2005. A Department of Economy and Civil Polity was formed in 1875, but abolished two years later. Then in 1887, a Department of History and Political Science was established, with the two components being separated in 1909. Our founding chair, Henry R. Spencer, served a remarkable 38 years, from 1909 to 1947. He was succeeded by Harvey C. Mansfield and then E. Allen Helms. The next three chairs—Lawrence J.R. Herson (1962-69), Randall B. Ripley (1969-91), and Paul Allen Beck (1991-2004)—all moved from chairing the department to being dean of the college. Kathleen McGraw served as department chair in 2004-05.

Herb Weisberg Receives Exemplary Service Award

Professor Weisberg received an Exemplary Service Award in spring 2005 from the Colleges of the Arts and Sciences. He served as director of the department's political research laboratory for nine years, was interim director of the Center for Survey Research, and has served as field coordinator for American politics and for political methodology, as well as being on the department's Executive Committee and numerous search committees.

Richard Gunther Selected by the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences as Joan N. Huber Faculty Fellow

Professor Richard Gunther is a leading expert on Spanish politics and on the process of democratization throughout the world. In addition to his own scholarly work, he has been a leader in fostering cross-national scholarly collaboration in studies of democratic politics. As co-chair of the Social Science Research Council/American Council of Learned Societies Subcommittee on Southern Europe, he organized a series of scholarly conferences designed to integrate scholarship on southern Europe into the mainstream of comparative politics. As the principal leader of the Comparative National Elections Project, he currently is organizing collaborative scholarly work on elections in selected countries from Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America, and in the United States.

Richard Gunther Wins Faculty Award

Richard Gunther has won the University's Faculty Award for Distinguished University Service. He has made very valuable contributions to the university in a series of important service roles, including his chairing the University Fiscal Committee for the last two years and his leadership of the campaign to protect the university budget and mission against legislative action last spring.