

# Political Science 367.01

## Lecture 11 February 19, 2001

### Campaign Finance Revisited and PACs

1. Administrative Issues
  - a. Third paper due on the 26<sup>th</sup>
  - b. Final paper guidelines ready by end of the week
  - c. Second paper back today—grades are better
  
2. The Lecture: Campaign finance revisited and PACs
  - a. Some basic definitions
  - b. The limits and guidelines from the FEC
  - c. A summary of the basics of modern campaign finance
  
3. Political Action Committees
  - a. What are these things?
  - b. How did they emerge as part of the political system?
    - i. The importance of labor unions
    - ii. The evolution over time—legal specification
  - c. The modern face of PACs
    - i. What types exist?
    - ii. How are they distributed?
    - iii. How do they spend their money?
  - d. Do PACs really matter?
    - i. Yes they do!
    - ii. No, they don't!
    - iii. Maybe they do...maybe they don't
    - iv. If not, why not?
  - e. What conclusions can we draw about the delicate balance between interest groups and Congress?