

PostScript



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Alumni News (continued)

THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

The Department of Political Science has many distinguished alumni, both among its undergraduate majors and its graduate students. Four years ago, the department decided to honor one of them each year by asking him or her to return to campus to speak to top students at our annual student recognition reception and to receive the Distinguished Alumni Award. So far, there have been four award winners: Carter Phillips, Jim Cotting, Richard Sisson, and John Kasich.

CARTER PHILLIPS, DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS 2000

Carter Phillips graduated *summa cum laude* from Ohio State in 1973 with his B.A. in political science, then went on to earn his J.D. (*magna cum laude*) from Northwestern University in 1977. Currently he is the managing partner of the Washington, D.C., office of Sidley Austin Brown and Wood. Mr. Phillips served as a law clerk to both Judge Robert Sprecher on the U.S. Court of Appeals and Chief Justice Warren E. Burger on the U.S. Supreme Court and as Assistant Solicitor General before joining Sidley and Austin, where he has maintained an active appellate practice. A prominent member of the Supreme Court Bar, he has been named by *The National Law Journal* as one of America's 100 Most Influential Lawyers. Mr. Phillips has argued 37 cases before the Supreme Court, 30 after leaving the Solicitor General's office. Among the recent cases he has argued before the Supreme Court are ones involving the constitutionality of Maine's prescription drug program and the legality of incentive payments to physicians in managed care organizations. He also authored the influential amicus brief for the United States Military in the University of Michigan affirmative action case. Mr. Phillips is a member of the American Law Institute and the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers, and he is a Fellow in the American College of Trial Lawyers and Chair of the Federal Circuit Advisory Committee.

JAMES C. COTTING, DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS 2001

James Cotting graduated with honors from Ohio State in 1955, with a major in political science and a commission in the U.S. Navy. His focus as an undergraduate student was on international relations and foreign trade, which he almost immediately put into practice on active duty in the Navy. After completing his naval active duty tours, Mr. Cotting started a business career that included positions with U.S. Steel, the Ford Motor Company, General Foods, and International Paper. He joined International Harvester in 1979 as senior vice president and chief financial officer, becoming executive vice president and vice chair and then chair and CEO in 1987—by which time the company had been renamed Navistar to symbolize its move out of agricultural equipment. Under his leadership, Navistar flourished for the next eight years. He is currently a director of USG Corporation, a governor of the Chicago Stock Exchange, and a member of the Commercial Club of Chicago. He also has advised a number of U.S. presidents over the years.

RICHARD SISSON, DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS 2002

Richard Sisson served as Board of Trustees chair in comparative politics from September 1998 until his retirement this year. He graduated from Ohio State in 1958 with a B.A. in international studies and, in 1960, with an

M.A. in political science. He then earned his Ph.D. in 1967 from the University of California at Berkeley, after which he held a variety of academic and administrative positions at the United States Military Academy, the University of California at Los Angeles, and Ohio State. He was Ohio State's provost from 1993 until 1998 and interim president from 1997 through 1998. (Please see the section on faculty retirements for a more complete appreciation of Professor Sisson's accomplishments.)

JOHN KASICH, DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS 2003

John Kasich graduated from Ohio State in 1974 with a B.A. in political science. Four years later, at age 26, he was elected to the Ohio Senate, and four years after that, in 1982 at the age of 30, he won election to the United States House of Representatives. He spent 18 years in the House of Representatives in Washington. As chair of the powerful House Budget Committee, he was a prime architect of the budget agreement that turned almost 15 year's worth of federal budget deficits into the budget surplus that we inherited at the beginning of the 21st century. Since leaving Congress in 2000, Representative Kasich simultaneously has pursued multiple careers. He is a managing director at Lehman Brothers, with his investment banking responsibilities for health care, power and utilities, technology, and financial institutions. As a television host and contributor for Fox News, he can be seen on his Saturday show *From the Heartland* and as a substitute host on *The O'Reilly Factor*. As chair of the New Century Project, he is leading a national grassroots effort dedicated to electing leaders who believe in the power of the individual.

AUTUMN 2003

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE

PostScript

Political science traditionally has been organized into four major fields, and to be so highly ranked in three of them is quite an achievement.



PAUL ALLEN BECK
Professor and Chair

Letter from the Chair

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I am pleased to introduce you to this year's issue of PostScript, which chronicles events in the lives of the department and its alumni during the past year. We have not published *PostScript* for several years, so this edition is dedicated to catching you up on department news. With your help, we hope to feature alumni more in future editions.

It may not surprise you to learn that, just like sports teams, academic departments are ranked and that our department ranks among the nation's best—and is seen as getting better and better. We ranked 18th among Ph.D.-producing departments in the National Research Council's 1995 study, which is the most credible of the various evaluations; we expect to do even better in the new NRC study to be conducted next year. About every three years, *U.S. News and World Report* asks political science faculty around the country to rate Ph.D.-producing departments. Their most recent survey, reported in 2001, ranked our department 15th in the nation and 6th among departments at public universities. Our major fields of American politics, international politics, and comparative politics were ranked 7th, 13th, and 14th, respectively. Political science traditionally has been organized into four major fields, and to be so highly ranked in three of them is quite an achievement. Moreover, Simon Hix, of the London School of Economics, rated us 9th in the world in his 2003 report, ahead of Cambridge, Oxford, etc., in the extent to which the scholarly books and papers of our faculty were cited by other scholars.

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One of the most stimulating aspects to me of teaching political science, especially in a state capital, is the experience many of our students bring with them.

same token, we are dedicated to doing even better—not to rise in the rankings per se, but rather to become an even better program for our students and to contribute more value through our teaching and our research to the understanding of politics and government.

One route to our high standing and improvement is through the recruitment of outstanding faculty. Over half of the department's faculty—a mix of beginning assistant professors and veteran associate and full professors—has come in the last 10 years. In the past year, we have added new faculty to each of our four major fields: Alan Wiseman and Craig Volden in American politics and public policy; Daniel Verdier in international politics; Mary Cooper and Irfan Nooruddin in comparative politics; and Michael Neblo and John Parrish in political theory. Professors Verdier and Volden are veteran professors. Cooper and Neblo held prestigious postdoctoral fellowships immediately after finishing their Ph.D.s. Wiseman spent a year at the Federal Trade Commission before joining our faculty, and Nooruddin and Parrish came to us directly after completing their Ph.D.s. Much of the funding for these new positions came from the university's Selective Investment program, which has designated 13 of the best departments for extra university funding in the last three years. What is most exciting to me about this new group is that they enrich each of the department's fields, including political theory, which we have been building up in recent years.

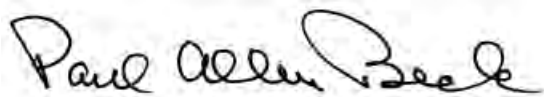
We also have attracted an impressive crop of new students. At the undergraduate level, we now have almost 1200 majors—more than we have had in a decade. Well over 240 of them are University Honors students, and many others bring impressive intellectual abilities and valuable experiences in government and politics to the classroom. One of our majors won a national competition for a Truman Fellowship and others have enrolled at some of the nation's top law schools after graduating. One of the

While it is important not to lose sight of our overall goal of excellence in teaching and research, and in serving Ohio and the world, and to realize that ratings are imperfect indicators of excellence, we are pleased by the esteem in which our colleagues across the country hold us. We hope that our past and present students feel similarly about the quality of their education. We think that our ranking acknowledges real quality in our faculty and in our programs, graduate and undergraduate. By the

most stimulating aspects to me of teaching political science, especially in a state capital, is the experience many of our students bring with them. Many have taken advantage of opportunities to study abroad and to hold internships here in Columbus, in Washington, and elsewhere. At the graduate level, we welcomed another strong class of Ph.D. students who hailed from a variety of states and foreign countries, and we said goodbye to Ph.D.s who took professorial positions at such diverse colleges/universities as Brigham Young, Doane, Iowa State, and Yale and at jobs in the Foreign Service and intelligence community.

The foundation of any department lies in the continuing high performance of its faculty in their teaching and scholarship. Students give our faculty high marks for their teaching, and the faculty commitment to teaching at both the undergraduate and graduate levels is strong. In the last year or two, three of our faculty were honored by the American Political Science Association (APSA) with awards for scholarship in their particular fields, and a fourth had a panel organized around her work at the national APSA meetings. The program chairs for these meetings, which attract over 6,000 political scientists, were two departmental faculty members. Several faculty received grants from the National Science Foundation, and others have received prestigious fellowships from the Fulbright Commission, Harvard's Center for European Studies, Rutgers' Center for American Women and Politics, the Hoover Institution, the Robert Wood Johnson Program in Health Policy, the Social Science Research Council, and the Spencer Foundation. In the past year, many of the faculty placed articles in leading journals or books with prestigious presses. If you pay careful attention to the news, local or national, you also will see Ohio State political scientists being quoted or interviewed on important topics ranging from democratization in Indonesia and conflict in the Middle East to vote counting in the 2000 presidential election.

These are but the major events in the recent life of the department. I apologize for going on at such length about them, but it is difficult for me as department chair to restrain the pride I feel in the accomplishments of our faculty and students. I hope that you will look forward to future issues of *PostScript* for additional developments as well as news about major events in the lives of our former students. Please take the time to fill out the form in this issue to share news about your own lives with us and other readers. We really would like to hear from you.



Paul Allen Beck
Professor and Chair

UNDERGRADUATE SPRING HONORS RECEPTION

Alumnus John Kasich (B.A. 1974) was the featured speaker at the Department of Political Science's fourth annual spring honors reception, held June 12 at the Fawcett Center on the Ohio State Columbus campus. Mr. Kasich is a former United States Congressman. He currently hosts *From the Heartland with John Kasich* on the FOXNews Channel, as well as the special *Heroes with John Kasich*, and he substitutes as host for *The O'Reilly Factor*. Representative Kasich spoke on the challenges new graduates will face in their careers. He encouraged students to clarify their principles and values so that they can maintain their ethical and moral standards when they face difficult choices.

More than 150 students and parents attended the reception, along with the majority of the department's faculty and staff.

Professor and department chair Paul Allen Beck presented Representative Kasich with the department's Distinguished Alumnus award. He also presented Professor Richard Herrmann with the department's Outstanding Faculty award.

Professors Larry Baum and John Parrish then presented awards to our outstanding undergraduate students. **Ebunoluwa Taiwo** received the Francis R. Auman Distinguished Senior Achievement award for academic excellence and service to the community and university. Seniors **David Lenz**, **David Lieberman**, **Nicholas Margida**, and **Amanda Wendorff** and juniors **Andrew Boruch**, **John Hickey**, and **Jeffrey Mead** received the Lawrence J.R. Herson Award for academic excellence. Professor Emeritus Lawrence Herson paid a special visit to campus for the reception in order to present the awards personally to these students.

Alissa Gilbert's essay, "Debunking the Myth: A Detailed Look at the Accomplishments and Shortcomings of Nazi Propaganda," earned her the Jacobina Aman Award for best paper in International Relations written by an undergraduate student during the 2002-2003 year. **Amanda Wendorff** earned the



Department chair Paul Beck presents John Kasich with the 2003 "Distinguished Alumnus" award at the spring undergraduate honors reception.



Representative John Kasich and the department's "Outstanding Faculty" member, Professor Richard Herrmann, confer after the spring undergraduate honors reception.

William Jennings Bryan Prize for best paper in American politics written by an undergraduate this year for "*Nevada Department of Human Resources v. Hibbs: Finding a Limit to Congress' Section Five Authority.*"

Also recognized were all University Honors graduating seniors from the department as well as continuing members of Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honorary. New

Pi Sigma Alpha members were inducted at the conclusion of the program.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS

Political Science's undergraduate students made us very proud this year with two university-level honors for their research. Senior **Sarah Topy** took first place at the eighth annual Denman Research Forum. Sarah won the prestigious award for her thesis, "Determining Factors of Presidential Leadership: Evaluating Presidential Greatness." Junior **Ebunoluwa Taiwo** earned third-place honors for her thesis, "'Nastier, Nosier, Costlier': Have Judicial Election Observers Gone Too Far?" Ms. Taiwo was also honored as Outstanding Junior at the competition. More than 240 students participated at this year's forum, the largest number so far. The purpose of the forum is to encourage undergraduate participation in research, to develop the abilities of undergraduate students to make a contribution to society, and to provide an opportunity to showcase interdisciplinary student research projects. Richard and Martha Denman, who are longtime supporters of the university, sponsor the forum.

Internship Program Gets New Life

Internship director Dr. Deborah Haddad has breathed new life into the department's internship program since her arrival in autumn 2002. Students have two ways to earn credit for their internship experiences. In Political Science 189, students complete two academic assignments—an internship-related mid-term exam and a paper—and in Political Science 589 students attend a course in which they develop a reading list and an analytical paper that relates their experiences with the theories of political science that they have been studying. This advanced experience can apply to a student's major, and admission to the course is competitive.

Classes include both analyses of students' experiences in light of political science theories, as well as presentations from a variety of elected officials, government offices, and non-governmental organizations. In autumn quarter, for example, the Ohio Legislative Services Commission and the owner of the Strategy Team, Ltd., have spoken with the class.

Internship experiences in Dr. Haddad's course include students involved in campaigns, ranging from Columbus City Council to U.S. Senate campaigns. Students also have worked at the Ohio Public Interest Research Group, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the National Federation of Independent Businesses, and the U.S. Sportsmen's Alliance. Students report finding the combination of practical work and independent research an effective learning tool.



"Herson Award" winners, seniors Amanda Wendorff, David Lenz, David Lieberman, and Nicholas Margida with Professor Emeritus Lawrence Herson at the spring undergraduate honors reception.

Yoram Haftel



Name _____

Address _____

street city state zip

Degree _____

Year of graduation _____ Daytime phone _____

E-mail _____

Tell us your news (professional and personal): _____

Political Science Faculty Lead Unprecedented Multinational Study

The Comparative National Elections Project (CNEP), led by Ohio State political science faculty Richard Gunther, Paul Beck, William Liddle, and Bradley Richardson, is the most ambitious and successful comparative study of politicization in social science history. It is a multinational project in which teams of scholars have studied important aspects of political communication and social structure within the context of election campaigns using compatible research designs and a common core of survey questions.

The initial focus of this study was the "intermediation process" through which citizens receive information about parties, candidates, and politics in general during the course of election campaigns. The researchers used questionnaires to investigate flows of information through primary social networks (among family members, friends, neighbors, and coworkers), and secondary associations (especially trade unions, religious organizations, and political parties), as well as flows of information from the communications media.

The first phase of this cross-national research involved studies of the established democracies in Germany, Britain, the United States, and Japan. The second wave incorporated Spain into the project.

Next, Chile, Uruguay, Greece, Bulgaria, Hungary, Indonesia, and Portugal became parts of the study's examination of countries that have made transitions to democratic rule. Hong Kong, which has taken steps toward democracy, is a subject of the CNEP, as is Italy, which has undergone a profound transformation of its party system. The CNEP also examines the State of Ohio, which, like most of the United States, has undergone a marked political polarization in recent years.

This allows the CNEP researchers to make a detailed study of the structuring of partisan politics in new or transformed democracies and to compare these emerging institutions and patterns of interaction with those of long-established democracies.

The next stage of the CNEP will further expand the geographical scope of the project through the addition of several African and East Asian democracies. Among other important questions, this will enable the researchers to analyze systematically the political impact of "traditional" vs. "modern" values in these societies. It will also allow them to study how values relating to pluralism and political opposition underpin votes against governing parties.

CNEP will also examine how, in some countries, "individualistic" values may shape support for pro-market and pro-democratic parties against the guardians of old economic and political regimes. Furthermore, by mapping the cultural cleavages that separate groups of partisan supporters from one another in this broad array of democracies, they hope to break down the barrier that separates the attitude-focused studies of the Michigan school from the social-cleavage-based studies that have been dominant in Western European electoral studies.

Janet Box-Steffensmeier received the Excellence in Mentorship Award given by the Women's Caucus for Political Science, 2002. The Women's Caucus for Political Science is a nonprofit organization, which seeks to improve the status of women in the profession of political science by promoting equal opportunity for women political scientists in employment, promotion, and tenure decisions, as well as graduate school admissions and financial aid decisions.

Greg Caldeira is the Jack N. Pritzker Distinguished Visiting Professor of Law at Northwestern for the 2003-04 academic year. Professor Caldeira pursues research and teaching in the fields of law and courts in the United States and Europe, organized interests, and American political institutions. Currently, he is engaged in projects on the legitimacy of high courts in new and mature democracies; the impact of organized interests on the formation of the Supreme Court's agenda; the rise and influence of organized conflict over the composition of the Supreme Court and federal courts; and, most recently, constitutional change in the United States during the 1930s.

Clarissa Hayward has won a National Academy of Education / Spencer Postdoctoral Fellowship. This is an interdisciplinary fellowship supporting research on questions related to education. In Professor Hayward's case, it will support research focusing on the production of citizen-identities. She holds this fellowship for the 2003 calendar year.

Dean Lacy was the Robert Eckles Swain National Fellow in Domestic Policy at Stanford University's Hoover Institution during the 2001-2002 academic year. While at the Hoover Institution, Professor Lacy worked on his book manuscript *Complex Thoughts, Simple Answers: A New Look at American Public Opinion*.

Tom Nelson received the 2002 Erik Erikson Award for Early Career Achievement from the International Society for Political Psychology.

Christa van Wijnbergen won a James Bryant Conant Fellowship for German and European Studies at the Minda de Gunzburg Center for European Studies (CES) at Harvard University. While at the CES for the academic year 2003-04, she is working on a research project on multilevel interest intermediation in reform of welfare states and labor markets in the European Union.

Herb Weisberg served as president of the Midwest Political Science Association in 2001-02.

PROMOTION AND TENURE

Janet Box-Steffensmeier has been promoted to full professor and named the Vernal Riffe Professor of Political Science.

Tim Frye has been promoted to associate professor with tenure.

Richard Herrmann was appointed the director of the Mershon Center.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Larry Baum won the Alumni Distinguished Teaching Award to accompany his prior recognitions. He has previously received the Colleges of Arts and Sciences' Outstanding Teaching Award, the Pi Sigma Alpha Award for Undergraduate Instruction in Political Science, the Council of Graduate Students Outstanding Service Award, and the Department of Political Science Distinguished Teaching Award.

NEW FACULTY

John Parrish, Ph.D., Harvard, teaches political theory.

Daniel Verdier, Ph.D., Berkeley, taught for seven years at the European University Institute in Florence. He is a specialist in international political economy and European politics.

Michael Neblo, Ph.D., Chicago, was a two-year Robert Wood Johnson Scholar

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in Health Policy Research at Michigan. He teaches political theory.

Mary Cooper, Ph.D., Yale, spent the last two years at Stanford's Asia/Pacific Research Center as a postdoc. She specializes in comparative political economy and China.

Irfan Nooruddin, Ph.D., Michigan, has a specialty in comparative and international political economy. He also studies the domestic politics of India.

Craig Volden, Ph.D., Stanford (Business School), was also a Robert Wood Johnson Scholar in Health Policy Research at Michigan. He specializes in American politics and political economy.

RETIREMENTS

Professor **Richard Sisson**, former vice president for Academic Affairs and provost, and former interim president, retired from the Department of Political Science at the end of August 2003. Professor Sisson majored in international studies and received a master's in political science at Ohio State, then went on to earn his Ph.D. in political science at Berkeley. From Berkeley—after a stint as a faculty member at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point—he went to UCLA where he stayed for 25 years as a faculty member and administrator.

Ten years ago, Professor Sisson returned to Ohio State to become our provost, bringing with him a reputation as a leading scholar of Indian politics and comparative legislatures. As an administrator, he also built a superior department at UCLA and served that university well as a dean and vice chancellor.

As our provost, he was committed to the mission of a public land-grant university and

to the proposition that Ohio State can achieve greatness in pursuing that mission. He had an impressive breadth of knowledge and understanding of the diversity of Ohio State, and he combined the strength to make tough decisions with a personal warmth and humanity that has endeared him to a wide variety of people in our community.

Professor Sisson served as the university's provost for over four years and then stepped up to fill in as interim president when former president Gordon Gee departed. This was a time of remarkable progress for Ohio State. Budget

This was a time of remarkable progress for Ohio State. Budget challenges, initially greater than we have faced in recent years, were turned into opportunities for advancement.

challenges, initially greater than we have faced in recent years, were turned into opportunities for advancement. Spirited competitions for central investment funds energized faculty and academic units—yielding new ideas, new synergies, and impressive new gains. Sisson was at the center of these exciting developments and a prime architect of these initiatives. He deserves great credit for positioning Ohio State so that it realistically aspires to the goals of our current academic plan.

Five years ago Professor Sisson returned to faculty life, refocusing his energy, his enthusiasm, and his talents on research, teaching, and service. Among other things, he has produced two coedited volumes of thoughtful pieces on the evolution of political science and is working on a multi-volume *Encyclopedia of the Midwest* and a new study of Indian politics. Members of the Department of Political Science, as well as friends and colleagues from across the university and the country gathered on October 7 to express their best wishes for the future and gratitude for his service.

DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE OUTSTANDING TEACHING AWARD

Andrew Holbrook's teaching is very impressive both in quality and quantity. One student writes on the evaluation form, under the question, "What did you like best about the course?" "Instructor funny—made very boring material somewhat bearable." And another writes: "His enthusiasm and sincere desire to educate make him the best educator I have had at Ohio State."



Andrew Holbrook

2002-2003 DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE OUTSTANDING DISSERTATION AWARD

Pedro Magalhaes, "The Limits to Judicialization: Legislative Politics and Constitutional Review in the Iberian Democracies." This dissertation challenges the notion that constitutional courts tend to become politicized and counter-majoritarian with a comprehensive empirical study of the institutional design and behavior of courts in Spain and Portugal. Dr. Magalhaes is a faculty member at the University of Lisbon in Portugal.

Saiful Mujani, "Religious Democrats: Democratic Culture and Muslim Political Participation in Post-Suharto Indonesia." Mujani systematically examines the common assertion that Islam and democracy are incompatible and finds with very creative empirics that they are not. Dr. Mujani is a faculty member at Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University in Indonesia.

From Ohio State to the Deserts of Kuwait

When Professor Janet Box-Steffensmeier began offering her course

"Legislatures and Interest Groups" online, she did so in order to provide innovative educational opportunities to students in a variety of circumstances. In autumn 2003, those circumstances came to include an active-duty soldier stationed in Kuwait.

Specialist 4 Brian Yeager, a junior political science major, was called to active duty in the Army National Guard in January and is now assigned to Camp Virginia in Kuwait. In September, he learned that his assignment, which he expected to be complete by now, would continue until April 2004.

Since he has Internet access in his off-duty hours, Yeager decided to try to take courses at Ohio State. He e-mailed academic advisor Wayne DeYoung, who worked out the details of his registration and fee payments. Yeager has been participating in Professor Box-Steffensmeier's course since the first day of classes.

"I've had other students in a desert," says Professor Box-Steffensmeier, "in Arizona, but never anyone on active duty near a combat zone."

Sandra J. Wood, office administrative assistant, won the university's 2003 Distinguished Staff Award, which recognizes 12 staff members for exceptional accomplishments, leadership, and service to the university. The department relies on Sandy and has done so since she began her career here 30 years ago. In an age of specialists, she is the consummate generalist, having performed every job in the department except that of graduate program secretary. As manager of the department's front office, Sandy serves 1,200 undergrads, 100 graduate students, 35 faculty, and seven other staff. As administrative assistant to the chair, she efficiently handles everything from overseeing travel for all departmental faculty and processing hundreds of applications for faculty positions to organizing multiple award competitions.

James Ludwig, master programmer and department engineer, retired after 36 years of dedicated service to the department, the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, and the university at large. Over the years, Jim was responsible for assisting innumerable students and faculty with problems of intractable data sets and the vicissitudes of programming languages. Jim is also a great raconteur and a historian of both science fiction and early 20th-century children's adventure literature.

Cross works with a volunteer to get Schwarzenegger's message out.



Political Science Alum Helps Schwarzenegger to Governor's Seat



Jon Cross

Jon Cross, a 2002 political science graduate from Ohio State,

recently returned from California, where he worked on Arnold Schwarzenegger's gubernatorial campaign. As the historical recall election took place, Cross served as the deputy director for the Southern California Volunteer Campaign Headquarters. A 23-year-old native of Kenton, Ohio, he oversaw a staff of 15 members and over 400 volunteers. His daily 16-hour workday routine was making sure the campaign operations ran smoothly and efficiently. Some of the daily operations of that office included a phone bank system, 72-hour GOTV program, direct mail program, grassroots activities, and special event planning. The headquarters also served as the main distribution center for all of California's campaign materials.

"It was an awesome experience to be a part of history," says Cross. "Being 23 and still learning a lot about campaigns and the political process, I believe this position gave me an opportunity to face new tasks, pressures, and issues I've never dealt with before. We had an awesome campaign staff and amazing volunteers who deserve so much credit for this successful campaign."

Cross flew back to Columbus recently and is preparing for his return, this time to Sacramento to work in the governor's office. In the mean time he has been assisting from Columbus with some transition issues and giving a few speeches about his experience.

During his time here at Ohio State, while earning his undergraduate degree, he served senior-level positions during two undergraduate student government administrations and interned for then auditor of state Jim Petro, now Ohio's Attorney General. He held a Congressional Fellowship for Congressman Pat Tiberi's office, was a member of the John Glenn Institute Washington Academic Fellowship Program, and assisted with George W. Bush's Ohio and Iowa campaigns. Cross also ran his father's winning campaign for Hardin County Commissioner and consults for local political races.



Cross spreads the news—with a touch of humor