

PSPA News

UND UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA

GRAND FORKS, ND

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION FALL 2008 | VOLUME 1 NUMBER 1

OUR MISSION is to serve the global, national, state, and local community by providing teaching, research, and service.

OUR GOAL is to be recognized as one of the finest small political science and public administration departments in the United States.



The Department of Political Science and Public Administration Faculty (left to right): Andy Hultquist, Dana Harsell, Jason Jensen, Katherine Scheurer, Mark Jendrysik, Brian Urlacher, Paul Sum, Robert Wood, Steven Light (Not pictured: Karen Bowles, Administrative Assistant).

From the Chair:

MARK JENDRYSIK, Ph.D.



The 2007-2008 academic year was one of continued success for the Political Science and

Public Administration (PSPA) Department, its faculty and students. The new members of our faculty have justified all our confidence in them. They and their more senior colleagues continue to be recognized around the campus and around the nation as outstanding scholars. We graduated 29 majors and 18 minors in our undergraduate programs. It would take too much space to enumerate all the achievements of the department over the last year, but if you are interested, I will be happy to send you a copy of our annual report by mail or e-mail. I would just like to note a couple of achievements.

Three members of the PSPA Department were nominated for the university-wide teaching award. I am also especially pleased to note that political science major Tyrone Granstrand, who is profiled in this newsletter, was elected student body president. We currently serve 154 undergraduate majors in Political Science and Public Administration and 35 graduate students in the Masters of Public Administration program.

OUTSTANDING GRADUATES RECOGNIZED

On May 1, 2008 the Department of Political Science and Public Administration (PSPA) was proud to host its first awards and recognition ceremony for graduating seniors and scholarship winners. The following students were recognized for their impressive achievements:

Chris England, son of Mike and Gail England of Vacaville, California was the outstanding graduate in Political Science. He has an overall UND GPA of 3.98 and a 4.0 GPA in Political Science. Chris won the Lloyd Omdahl Undergraduate Writing Award in 2007. He is currently working in the Washington, DC office of Senator Kent Conrad of North Dakota.

Anneliese Nelson, daughter of Kevin and Lori Nelson of Roseau, Minnesota was the outstanding graduate in Public Administration. She has an overall UND GPA of 3.92 and a 3.9 GPA in Public Administration. She is a member of the UND Honors

Program and is completing a senior thesis entitled, "Faith Based Initiatives, Federal Funding, and Pregnancy Crisis Centers." She is a Presidential Scholar and captain of UND's swimming and diving team. She is a 2008 Presidential Scholar-Athlete Award recipient. She has moved to Fargo and plans to pursue a career in higher education administration or non-profit management.

The PSPA Department also recognized the winners of our scholarships and awards:

Lloyd Omdahl Undergraduate Writing Award:

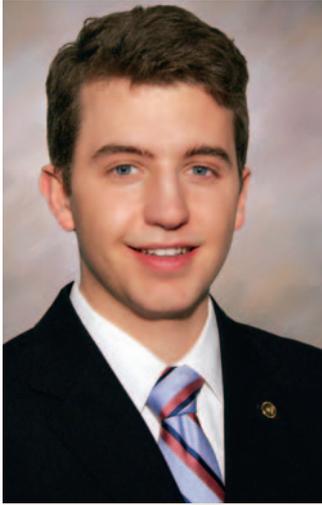
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Adrian Dunn Scholarship: **Laura Novotny**

J. Raymond and Frankie MacMaster Olson Scholarship: **Per Westergren**

Milton R. Young Scholarship:

Harald Brevik and **Christine Carlson**



Undergraduate Profile: Tyrone Granstrand

Tyrone Granstrand is a double major in political science and public administration. He was elected student body president (SBP) for 2008-09. Before his election to SBP, he served as a Student Senator and as the President of the Association of Residence Halls. His goals for his administration include working with state government to limit tuition and fee increases and raising public awareness of the service and charitable activities of UND's student body. He chose UND for the same reason many students do; it was close to home. At first, Tyrone wanted to "major in everything." But after taking classes in the PSPA Department he decided to pursue public service as a career and vocation. His future plans are still a work in progress but he plans to continue serving the public good, possibly in law or academics. Tyrone wants alumni to know that "the department is in good hands."

Faculty Profile: Brian Urlacher

Dr. Brian Urlacher, one of the PSPA's three new faculty members, is a native of the Dakotas. He attended the University of South Dakota for his undergraduate studies and for a Masters in Public Administration. Brian did a short stint working with the anti-corruption organization Transparency International, which is based in Berlin, Germany. This experience helped encourage Brian to pursue work in the area of international relations. With this in mind he began doctoral work at the University of Connecticut, earning a Ph.D. in 2007.

Brian began at the University of North Dakota in the Fall of 2007. He lives in Grand Forks with his wife, Angela, and two sons, Jak and William. After several years on the east coast and then in Michigan, he is excited to be back in North Dakota. Brian teaches classes on International Politics, U.S. Foreign Policy, Civil Wars, and Politics and Security in South Asia.

Brian's research focuses on modern civil wars, negotiation analysis and peace building. Brian has used innovative strategies to get at these questions ranging from computer simulations, experiments on negotiation behavior using middle and high school students, and quantitative analysis of trends in inter-



national politics. Brian's research, since arriving at UND, will be featured in leading journals in international relations including *International Studies Quarterly* and *International Studies Review*.

Distinguished Alumni Profile: Denise Flanagan

Denise Flanagan is a native of Fargo and an alumna of Fargo South High School. She graduated from UND in 1990 with a degree in public administration and received a master's degree from Syracuse University in 1991. She won a Truman Scholarship in 1988. Since entering government service she has worked as a Presidential Management Intern, on former Vice-President Gore's National Performance Review, and in human resource management. She is currently the Director of Financial Management for the Office of Naval Research. In this position she manages the Navy's science and technology programs and handles a budget of over three billion dollars.

Denise says she chose UND after attending Girls State and meeting the members of the department. Looking back on her undergraduate experience she believes that one of the best things about UND is that it is small enough to have accessible professors who can mentor students. "If you had a problem you could just stop by and talk to your teachers." At the same time UND was large enough to provide leadership opportunities that helped her future career.

Majoring in public administration was a natural choice since Denise has always been interested in public service. She wanted a course of study that combined public service and business and found the public administration curriculum to be a perfect match. It provided "a basic fundamental background to do just about anything!" Perhaps the most impor-



tant skill she developed was an ability to write effectively. She says the ability to analyze information and communicate that information to others may be the most important skills a student can develop in college.

Denise would like to extend an invitation to students interested in government service to contact her for advice. She says there is no typical federal job and there are more diverse opportunities than people think. Students or other PSPA alumni can contact Denise by e-mail dfvadaf@aol.com or by phone at 703-696-4292.



Serving North Dakota

The Political Science and Public Administration Department serves North Dakota in many ways. We offer the only Masters of Public Administration program in the state of North Dakota. The program is fully accredited by the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NAS-PAA). For further information about the program and its graduates, please contact Dr. Jason Jensen, MPA Director, at jason.jensen@und.nodak.edu.

Since 1970 our Bureau of Governmental Affairs has provided polling and policy analysis services for clients across the upper Midwest. It maintains an archive of political data about North Dakota. It publishes *Governing North Dakota*, a comprehensive guide to state and local government and the *Directory of Government Officials*, a compendium of contact information for federal, state and local officials in North Dakota. Both publications are available upon request for a nominal fee. For further information, please contact Dr. Robert Wood, Bureau Director, at robert.wood@und.nodak.edu.

The PSPA Department also coordinates internship opportunities for our majors. Alumni and friends interested in providing such opportunities and students hoping to pursue them should contact Dr. Dana Harsell at dharsell@mail.business.und.edu.

Faculty Research

Members of the Department of Political Science and Public Administration are committed to research in their fields of specialization. Such research raises the profile of the Department and benefits students by keeping the faculty up to date on the latest trends and methods in the discipline. Here is an example of our recent research.

Modern Jeremiahs:

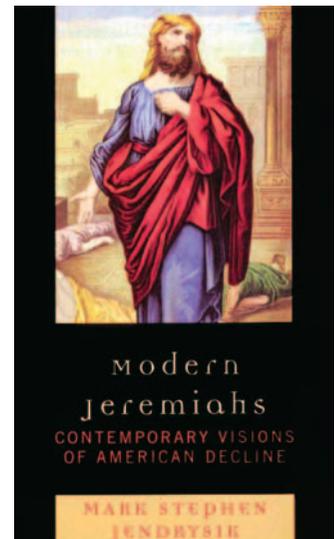
Contemporary Visions of American Decline

By Mark Jendrysik, Rowman and Littlefield, 2008

“Modern Jeremiahs explores America’s favorite narrative — the dire warning of terrible decline. We’ve been going to hell in a hand basket since the Puritans arrived. But, as Jendrysik artfully demonstrates, our tales of woe have profoundly changed — and with far

reaching consequences. Elegant, engaging, infuriating, funny, insightful and highly recommended.”— James Morone, author of *Hellfire Nation: The Politics of Sin in American History* and professor of political science, Brown University.

One of the most enduring themes in American political discourse is the idea of decline. Since the very beginnings of the European settlement of North America there have been voices pointing to an inevitable regression of the people from the standards set by heroic ancestors. This discourse of decay has often taken the form of the jeremiad in which public intellectuals, pundits, and politicians point to the causes of decline and call for a return to older and nobler standards of conduct. The Jeremiad has seen a revival in the last 25 years. Jendrysik traces the history of this form of political discourse from its modern reinvention by Allan Bloom to its current uses by such figures as Bill O’Reilly and Hillary Clinton.



Scholarships and support

The Department has a number of scholarships and awards. Alumni and friends might wish to contribute to these funds or start one of their own.

Lloyd Omdahl Undergraduate Writing Award: Award for best paper written during the academic year.

Adrian Dunn Scholarship: Awarded to juniors interested in public service and communications.

J. Raymond and Frankie MacMaster Olson Scholarship: Awarded to juniors interested in international affairs.

Milton R. Young Scholarship: Awarded to juniors interested in a career in public service.

Ron Pynn Endowment: Provides scholarships for female students who attended Girls State and are interested in public service.

More Recent Faculty Research...

In the last academic year, department members presented sixteen papers at national and international conferences, five at regional conferences and made eight local presentations. They have submitted numerous papers for publication and have several other forthcoming articles and book chapters.

Department members were also invited to give several presentations in academic and professional settings. Here is a sample of more recent faculty research:

Mark Jendrysik, "The Snake in the Garden: Crime and Punishment in Utopian Thought." Forthcoming in *Topic: The Washington & Jefferson College Review*, and "Tom Paine: Utopian?" *Utopian Studies*, Vol. 18 (2007).

Jason Jensen, Matt Leiphon and J. Fortner, *A Study of North Dakota Business Entrepreneurs: Burdens Faced and Factors Impacting Location Decisions*. North Dakota Small Business Development Center (2008).

Steven Light and Kathryn Rand, *Indian Gaming Law*, Carolina Academic Press (2008), and *Instructor's Manual for Indian Gaming Law*, Carolina Academic Press (2008), and "North Dakota Gaming," in William Thompson and Anthony Cabot, eds., *International Casino Law*. (2007).

Katherine Scheurer and J.K. Boles, "Beyond Women, Children, and Families: Gender, Representation and Public Funding for the Arts," *Social Science Quarterly*, 8 (2007).

Paul Sum, S. Nelson, L. Mitchell, A. Petrescu, O. Lupu, and S. Dobre, *Civil Society Programs Financed by the U.S. Government in Romania: Best Practices & Lessons Learned*. Washington, DC: United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Brian Urlacher, *Instructors Manual and Test Bank for John T. Rourke's International Politics on the World Stage 11th edition*. McGraw Hill (2008) and "Walking out of Two-Level Social Traps (With a little Help From my Friends)," forthcoming in *Simulation & Gaming*; and "Gender and Negotiation: Some Experimental Findings," forthcoming in *International Studies Quarterly*.

Save the date!

The Department will be hosting its second annual Recognition and Awards Reception on May 7, 2009. Look for an invitation in this spring.

Share your news!

If you have any information you would like to share with the Department and your fellow alumni please direct your comments to our Administrative Secretary, Karen Bowles at karenbowles@business.und.edu. Specific questions about the Department can be directed to the Chair, Mark Jendrysik at mark.jendrysik@und.nodak.edu.

Supporting UND and the Department of Political Science & Public Administration:

If you are interested in learning more about how to support the Department of Political Science and Public Administration or other priorities at the University of North Dakota, please feel free to contact Kim Woods, Director of Development for the College of Business and Public Administration at the UND Foundation at (701) 777-4106 or via email at: kimk@undfoundation.org. Feel free to check us out on the web at: www.business.und.edu/pols/



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