

# PSPAN NEWS



UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA

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A NEWSLETTER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION FALL 2010

## WASHINGTON INTERNS IN WENSTROM SPOTLIGHT



2010 Wenstrom Lecture panelists (left to right): Jacklyn Crouch, Herbie Kretzsinger, Beth Vipond, Kayla Despres, Jason Priebe, and Shane Zahrt.

Student Internships and the Washington Experience was the theme of the 2010 Frank Wenstrom Lecture. Current PSPA students who recently served as interns in Washington, DC spoke about their experiences at the capitol, providing motivation and useful advice for those considering such opportunities. The event was a great success and may be repeated as a Wenstrom topic in the future.

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.

Participants and their main internship assignments included: **Jacklyn Crouch**, with Congressman Earl Pomeroy; **Kayla Despres** with Senator Byron Dorgan; **Herbie Kretzsinger** with Pomeroy; **Jason Priebe** at the White House; **Beth Vipond** with Senator Kent Conrad, and **Shane Zahrt** with Pomeroy.

The next Wenstrom Lecture will be in Spring 2011. Watch our web site for announcements, and please join us.

Alumni with suggestions for future Wenstrom Lecture topics or speakers are invited to e-mail the department.

Frank Wenstrom (1903-1997) served North Dakota as Lieutenant Governor and was President of the Second North Dakota Constitutional Convention. The Wenstrom Library in the Bureau of Governmental Affairs and the Wenstrom Lecture were established through generous gifts from the Wenstrom Family.

## FROM THE CHAIR:



Greetings to all our alumni and friends. It's been an eventful year in the Department.

**Steven Light** was promoted to Professor in the spring. In August, he began a three-year appointment as Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education. We wish him well in his new position.

Professor **Dana Harsell** received the College's teaching award, and Professor **Jason Jensen** received the College's service award. Jason also received the University's award for outstanding graduate teaching.

The number of students in the Masters of Public Administration program has tripled over the last two years. Our move to a hybrid model of course delivery has paid off! Of course, now we face the happy problem of managing success. Our MPA alumni can look forward to hearing from us as we prepare for the NASPAA re-accreditation upcoming in 2012.

This past year we sent students to international affairs conferences at both West Point and Annapolis. Look for more news on student research in our next newsletter.

**Karen Bowles**, our longtime Department secretary, retired in June. She will be missed by everyone. We were lucky to hire an experienced replacement in **Carissa Green**.

Over the last academic year we graduated 26 majors and 18 minors in our undergraduate programs. We graduated twelve students in the MPA program. Feel free to request a copy of our annual report by mail or e-mail me at [mark\\_jendrysik@und.edu](mailto:mark_jendrysik@und.edu).



## POLITICAL SCIENCE MAJOR GRANT HAUSCHILD WINS TRUMAN SCHOLARSHIP

Fargo native and Political Science major Grant Hauschild is the North Dakota winner of the prestigious Truman Scholarship for 2010. He also is the current UND Student Body Vice President.

Established in 1975, as the federal memorial to President Harry S. Truman, the Foundation awards scholarships for college students to attend graduate school in preparation for careers in government or elsewhere in public service.

After his stint as Student Body Vice President, Hauschild plans to spend next year as an intern in Washington D.C. He will then pursue a Master's Degree in Public Policy.

"After I finish my Master's Degree, I would like to return to North Dakota to open a public interest consulting firm, run for city council, or even return to law school at UND," Hauschild said. "Ultimately, I want to help make North Dakota the envy of the other states by expanding on what we already do right, and promoting progressive ideas through public service."

Among his other awards and achievements are the Milton R. Young Scholarship for Public Service, given by the Department of Political Science and Public Administration; membership in Delta Upsilon fraternity; former Vice President of University Democrats; former Treasurer and Vice President of Pi Sigma Alpha, UND Public Affairs Honor organization; and Boy's State counselor, where he was given the David A. Wolf award for best counselor.

## FACULTY PROFILE: ANDY HULTQUIST

Andy Hultquist is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Political Science and Public Administration. His primary research interests focus on questions of public policy and urban and regional economic development, particularly how firm location and outcomes are affected by public incentive programs, amenities, and disamenities. His additional areas of expertise and interest include public and applied microeconomics, econometrics, policy evaluation, spatial analysis, and state and local public finance.



Dr. Hultquist received a BA in Political Science from the University of Minnesota and a Master of Public Policy degree from the University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute. He earned a Ph.D. in Public Policy and Management from The Ohio State University's John Glenn School of Public Affairs.

He has presented papers at numerous annual conferences for the National Tax Association, the Regional Science Association International (North America), and the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management. His work has appeared in past volumes of *Urban Studies* and *Urban Affairs Review*. His latest publication is forthcoming in the Fall 2010 issue of the *Journal of Public Management and Social Policy*.

## SUM'S ROMANIAN FULBRIGHT YEAR YIELDS RICH RESEARCH AND CULTURAL EXPERIENCES

Associate Professor Paul Sum returned to Grand Forks in June 2010 from Romania, after receiving a IIE Fulbright Award to teach and conduct research at Babe-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, Romania for the 2009-2010 academic year. Sum describes an intellectually rich research environment at the Center for the Study of Democracy, which served as his academic home for the year.

He conducted 83 interviews with representatives from the Romanian non-profit sector. Such organizations are facing extraordinary challenges since the country joined the European Union in 2007. "Their funding dried up since 90 percent of civil society money had been coming from international sources...how can the US be expected to provide non-profit assistance funds to an EU member country?" asks Sum.

However, there is room for optimism. The sector is adjusting, and Sum's research reveals a budding culture of volunteerism and philanthropy that may, in the long-term, sustain it.

His findings will be included in a forthcoming book that he is editing,

*Romania under Basescu: Aspirations, Achievements, and Frustrations during his First Presidential Term* (Lexington Books). "I was struck by how many scholars of Romania similarly view the current state of politics, and the book idea came from those many conversations during my time as a Fulbright scholar," says Sum. It is scheduled to be released in March 2011.

Sum also speaks highly of his teaching experiences in Romania. "Teaching comparative politics to Romanians requires very different emphases than what is offered to Americans," Sum notes.

He also developed a course entitled *Social Entrepreneurship and NGO Advocacy*, which will soon be offered to UND students through the Department's new Social Entrepreneurship certificate program.

During his developmental leave he had six peer-reviewed publications. He speaks glowingly of his time in Transylvania, which not only afforded an exceptional intellectual experience, but where he (and his family) fell in love with the mountains that surround the city of Cluj. He looks forward to returning soon.

## DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI PROFILE: BJORN HALL



Bjorn Hall was born in Las Vegas, Nevada and graduated from Park River (ND) High School in 1999. He received his BA, summa cum laude, from UND in 2003, majoring in Political Science and minoring in Russian. Following UND, Bjorn attended the Georgetown University Law Center, graduating with a JD in 2006. His advice to students heading off to law school is to “get used to not being the smartest person in the room.”

Bjorn is an associate attorney at O’Melveny & Myers LLP in Washington, DC specializing in capital markets and corporate finance law. He says, “I am very proud of the time I spent at UND and the education I received there. The Political Science department at UND is filled with quality from start to finish. While my degree in Political Science is not directly applicable to what I do on a daily basis, the critical thinking and writing skills that I developed at UND have served and continue to serve me well. Plus, I think anyone interested in a career in Big Law should read *The Prince* at least once.”

Bjorn recommends studying abroad. He spent the summer of 2000 and all of 2001 studying in Moscow, Russia and the summer of 2004 working as a legal intern for a major Russian steel company. “There is no way that I can emphasize enough how large of an impact the 18 months I

## 2010 PSPA AWARDS HONOR STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The 2010 spring awards and recognition ceremony, held May 6, honored high-achieving students and recent graduates for their scholarship, leadership, and service. The four major awards include outstanding graduates in Political Science and Public Administration, and outstanding civic engagement at the university and in the wider community. Honorees included:

♦**Leslie Blumhagen**, Bismarck, Outstanding Graduate in Political Science. She is an academic scholarship recipient and graduated summa cum laude. She is a member of Pi Sigma Alpha, the UND Political Science honorary; and the prestigious Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society. For the past four years, Leslie has volunteered as a UND Student Ambassador. During the summer of 2010, Leslie worked as an intern in the Special Investigative Unit at Workforce Safety and Insurance. In the fall, she began law school at UND.

♦**Jacklyn Crouch**, Great Falls, Mont., Outstanding Graduate in Public Administration. Jackie graduated with honors from the five-year combined MPA Program with a Health Care Policy certification. She is a member of Pi Alpha Alpha (Honorary Public Administrator’s Society), former President of Pi Sigma Alpha, and is a member of the University Democrats. Jackie served as a Graduate Teaching Assistant for two years. She now works for the Health Resources and Services Administration in Washington, DC.

♦**Dan Tienter**, Oak Grove, MN, Outstanding Civic Engagement at the University. He has been an active member of the UND community through various organizations, including Student Government, the University Senate and Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity. In the fall of 2010, he began the MPA program.

♦**Shane Zahrt**, Fargo, Outstanding Civic Engagement in the Community. While President of Pi Sigma Alpha, he organized service projects including a canned food drive, a charity book drive, and a discussion panel on healthcare reform. In summer 2008 he was an intern in Washington, DC for Congressman Earl Pomeroy, before returning to the midwest to work on Barack Obama’s campaign. After graduation he planned to begin a job as an organizer for the Democratic-NPL party in Grand Forks, and attend law school.

Scholarships also were announced to these outstanding students:

♦Lloyd Omdahl Undergraduate Writing Award: **Dan Tienter**

♦Adrian Dunn Scholarship: **Mitch Molstad**, West Fargo.

♦Milton R. Young Scholarship: **Grant Hauschild**, Fargo, and **Korey Southerland**, Minneapolis.

The Department commends these worthy recipients for their hard work and dedication to the ideals embodied in each scholarship and award. The Department also thanks the donors and families whose generosity make possible the annual scholarships, and the CoBPA Dean’s Office for its support throughout the year.

spent studying and working in Russia has had on me, as quite literally every major aspect of my adult life can be traced back to those trips to Moscow. I’m a huge proponent of study abroad programs and highly recommend them -- unless it is to an English speaking country, because that is just cheating.”

Bjorn lives in Arlington, Virginia. He

wife, Svitlana, is a native of Cherkassy, Ukraine. She and Bjorn met when Svitlana was a foreign exchange student. They have a daughter, Bianca, who is 3 years old.

Bjorn invites students and PSPA alumni to contact him at [bhall@omm.com](mailto:bhall@omm.com).

## SUPPORT PSPA

If you're interested in learning more about how to support the Department of Political Science and Public Administration or other priorities at UND, please contact Kim Woods, Director of Development for the College of Business and Public Administration at the UND Foundation, (701) 777-4106, e-mail: kimk@undfoundation.org.

## SCHOLARSHIPS & SUPPORT

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

- ♦ **Lloyd Omdal Undergraduate Writing 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.
- ♦ The Department coordinates internship opportunities for our majors. Alumni and friends interested in providing such opportunities should contact Dr. Mark Jendrysik at mark\_jendrysik@und.edu.

## RECENT FACULTY RESEARCH . . .

*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 a selection of recent faculty research:*

- ♦ **Mark Jendrysik** "Back to the Garden: New Visions of Post-Human Futures." Forthcoming in *Utopian Studies* Vol. 22.1, 2011.
- ♦ **Paul E. Sum** and **Steven Andrew Light** "Assessing Student Learning Outcomes and Documenting Programmatic and Institutional Success through a Capstone Course." In *PS: Political Science & Politics* 43(2): 523-31.
- ♦ **Paul E. Sum** "The Radical Right in Romania: Political Party Evolution and the Distancing of Romania from Europe." In *Communist and Post-Communist Studies* 43(1): 19-29.
- ♦ **Gabriel Badescu** and **Paul E. Sum** "Coming Home: First and Second Order Effects of Returning Migrants on Economic Development through the Changing Dynamics of Social Capital." In *Romanian Journal of Communication and Public Relations* 11(3):

**P**rofessor **Steven Light's** book, "*The Law is Good: The Voting Rights Act, Redistricting, and Black Regime Politics*," (Carolina Academic Press) was released this fall. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 is



the most important civil rights law in U.S. history, having virtually eliminated race-based voter discrimination. The law's success and Barak Obama's election have led some to question whether we still need the VRA. As the next round of race-based redistricting approaches, "*The Law is Good*" addresses three questions of central importance: What is the VRA? How does it work? and Do we still need it in the 21st Century?

17-34.

- ♦ **Brian Urlacher** "Game theory: Explaining Ethnic Violence." In *Making Sense of IR Theory: Iraq*, Jennifer Sterling-Folder, ed. Forthcoming from Lynne Reiner Press.
- ♦ **Brian Urlacher** "Public Goods and International Politics" Forthcoming in the International Studies Association *Compendium Project*.