At this month’s 68th Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Bryan D. Jones, the J.J. “Jake” Pickle Chair in Congressional Studies, assumes the presidency of the organization. There are three points I would like to make regarding this milestone.
First, our department has finally conquered the last of the big three. Faculty, former faculty, or alumni have a relatively impressive presence in the list of American Political Science Association past presidents – Charles G. Haines in 1938-39, V.O. Key, Jr. in 1957-58, R. Taylor Cole in 1958-59, and Emmette Redford in 1960-61. We have had an even bigger presence, unsurprisingly, in the list of Southern Political Science Association past presidents – Roscoe Martin in 1942, R. Taylor Cole in 1951, Wallace Mendelson in 1969, Donald Strong in 1970, William Livingston in 1975, Clifton McCleskey in 1983, and Earl Black in 1997. Jones’ presidency marks the first time a Longhorn has hooked the Midwest. It certainly will not be the last – which brings me to my second point.

Even if we had not succeeded three years ago in moving Jones from Seattle back to Austin, his MPSA presidency would be a cause for celebration because he is an alumnus, having received his Ph.D. from the department in 1970. This department, in one capacity or another, has a history of producing disciplinary leaders. We have every reason to believe – and every expectation – that this will continue. It might be the student just enrolled, the student not yet admitted, the visiting faculty member, or you – but we know it is going to happen, and happen more than once. And our alumni especially can draw inspiration from Jones’ career, which has been built on hard work and sheer native intelligence. He worked his way up from a lengthy stint at Wayne State University (no offense, but not a peer institution) before heading for greener pastures in College Station, Seattle, and, finally, his alma mater. His career also is marked by numerous alumni connections. His first article in *The Journal of Politics* (the journal he says saved his career, and which, judging by recent trends will accelerate the careers of many members of our department), was published in 1973, the median year between the editorships of William Livingston and Donald Strong.

The third and final point is that our recent effort to reach out to our alumni, the centerpiece to this effort being these periodic newsletters, has multiple purposes. A primary goal is to occasionally inform you of the storied history of the Department of Government and of the many luminaries associated with it. Another is to convince you that loyalty to your old department and former mentors will be returned in kind. It has been a real pleasure reengaging with alumni to this point, and we are eagerly anticipating the opening of new doors for all of us as we move on.

Sincerely,

Gary P. Freeman, Chair

**$500 Prize for Best Alumni Paper at Midwest**

We are very pleased to announce a $500 prize for the best alumni paper at this year’s Midwest Political Science Association Conference. To enter, you must turn your paper in to Stuart Tendler, who will be in Chicago, Thursday afternoon-Saturday morning. Contact him at: smtendler@austin.utexas.edu. With Jones assuming the presidency, it was awfully tempting to name this prize in his honor, but the Development Office might get nauseous if we name something for free. We will leave it open for now, just in case.

**Texas Reception at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference**
Midwest is April 22-25 in Chicago. The Texas Reception is at 10 p.m. on Friday in the Empire Room. We hope to see you there.

**Walter Dean Burnham Symposium**

In February, the J.J. Pickle Speaker Series in American Institutions and Public Policy held a symposium in honor of Walter Dean Burnham and the publication of Burnham’s new book, which is a vast archive of electoral data, *Voting in American Elections: The Shaping of the American Political Universe Since 1788*. Benjamin Page and Tom Ferguson flew in for the event, and they were joined by Bryan Jones, Daron Shaw, Bat Sparrow, and Adam Myers. We thank Jim Henson for helping get the event video recorded. We will let you know when the video is available for viewing. You can read a brief piece we wrote on Burnham [here](#).

**April JOP**

The department has an impressive presence in the April issue of *The Journal of Politics*. We have articles by an (undergraduate) alumnus and assistant professor (Stephen Jessee) and by two alums (David Williams and Jeff Ladewig); also, a book review by an alumnus (Michael Unger), and a review of an associate professor’s book (Juliet Hooker). We even have former faculty represented with an article by Mathew McCubbins. We have a long history with the Southern Political Science Association and JOP (see this issue’s Letter from the Chair) that we look forward to continuing. Graduate student Jeremy Fortier has an article, “Can Liberalism Lose the Enlightenment,” forthcoming in *JOP*.

**General Newsletter and Facebook**

If you have not yet read the April 2010 general newsletter, please do: [Goodbye and Good Luck!](#)

Many thanks to Janet Boles, Bruce Grube, and Laura Seay for their contributions.

Also, become a fan of the department’s Facebook page:

[Facebook](#)

**Alumni Updates**

We have made some updates to our [Burnt Orange Placement Map](#) – please help us keep it current and fill in the holes. Thanks!

Ryan Barilleaux recently completed two terms as chair of his department at Miami University (Ohio) and has a co-edited volume, *The Unitary Executive and the Modern Presidency*, forthcoming from Texas A&M University Press.
Steve Barracca has received tenure and been promoted to Associate Professor at Eastern Kentucky University.


John Booth has three recent co-authored or co-edited publications: *The Legitimacy Puzzle in Latin America: Political Support and Democracy in Eight Nations*, *Understanding Central America: Global Forces, Rebellion, and Change*, and *Perspectivas para la democracia en América Latina (Prospects for Democracy in Latin America)*.

Lyle Brown, professor emeritus at Baylor, is working with four co-authors on the 14th edition of *Practicing Texas Politics*.

Rhonda Evans Case is convening a May workshop at the University of Sydney Law School: “Judicial Supremacy or Inter-institutional Dialogue? Political Responses to Judicial Review.” UT-Austin’s Clark Center for Australian and New Zealand Studies is the primary sponsor.


Erik Devereux is starting his own nonprofit administration and governance consulting practice – 501c3 Tuneup, Inc., to be headquartered in Silver Spring, Maryland. He leaves an 11-year position as executive director of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management.

Julie George’s book, *The Politics of Ethnic Separatism in Russia and Georgia*, was published by Palgrave Macmillan.

Jorge González has returned to the Valparaiso Campus of Universidad Adolfo Ibañez (Chile). Last year he was a member of the board of the presidential campaign of Marco Enriquez-Ominami. An English version of his book, *El efecto de la ambiguedad en la transición Chilena*, has been published by RiL Editores: *The Effect of Ambiguity in the Chilean Transition*.

Danny Hayes has accepted a position at American University in Washington, D.C. He also continues publishing, with articles forthcoming in *American Politics Research* and *Political Research Quarterly*.

Marc Hetherington’s co-authored book (with Jonathan D. Weiler), *Authoritarianism and Polarization in American Politics*, was released last year by Cambridge.

Dennis Hickey is the new book review editor of the *Journal of Chinese Political Studies*. Anyone interested in writing a book review should contact him. Dennis has a recent co-edited volume published by Lexington Books, *Toward Better Governance in China: An Unconventional Pathway of Political Reform*. 
**Takeshi Iida** has moved positions within Waseda University, becoming assistant professor at the Graduate School of Asia-Pacific Studies. His article, with Tetsuya Matsubayashi, “Constitutions and Public Support for Welfare Policies,” appeared earlier this year in *Social Science Quarterly*.

**Harvey Kline** is retiring from his position at the University of Alabama after a 40-year career (25 at Alabama). Harvey chaired the department at Alabama for seven years and was Latin American Studies director for seven years as well. The 7th edition of *Latin American Politics and Development*, which he co-edits with Howard Wiarda, will be released in July by Westview Press. His *Showing Teeth to the Dragon: State-Building by Colombian President Álvaro Uribe Vélez, 2002-2006* was published last year by The University of Alabama Press.

**Jeffrey Ladewig**’s 2008 co-authored article in *Perspectives on Politics* sparked a federal lawsuit against the U.S. Department of Commerce which is progressing and can be followed at: [http://www.apportionment.us/](http://www.apportionment.us/).

**Anna Law**’s book, *The Immigration Battle in American Courts*, is due out from Cambridge in June.


**John Morris** is a research scientist at the Shepherd Center, a critical care hospital in Atlanta. He is completing an article on the effectiveness of the Federal Communications Commission’s 2003 rules requiring hearing-aid-compatibility of cell phones, preparing to conduct user research for a tongue-drive system for motorized wheelchairs operated by tetraplegics with high levels of spinal cord injury, and collaborating with RAND researchers and the Haiti Amputee Program on a surveillance study of people who have lost limbs in Haiti. He has recent publications in the *International Journal of Emergency Management* and the *Journal of Engineering Design*.

**Charles Phillips**, now a Regents Professor at the Texas A&M Health Science Center who specializes in health services research, is Principal Investigator on a new project in which he and his colleagues are using a quasi-experimental research design to test a clinical protocol developed to reduce unnecessary antibiotic use in nursing homes. This is a three-year project funded at slightly under $1 million by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

**Ayesha Ray** has been elected to serve on the Executive Council of the Pennsylvania Political Science Association.


**Carolyn Shaw** has been selected as a Fulbright Scholar and will teach at Poland’s Marie Curie Skłodowskiej University in Spring 2011.
Terry Sullivan is spending an academic year at the Hoover Institution as a W. Glenn Campbell Fellow in National Affairs and also serving on the National Commission on the Federal Appointments Process, which is charged with recommending and otherwise causing reforms in the speed with which administrations and the Senate field an administration.

Mathieu Turgeon has taken a position as assistant professor at the Instituto de Ciência Política at the Universidade de Brasília. Those in the know are well aware this had everything to do with the 2014 World Cup.

David Williams has an article in April’s American Journal of Political Science: “Political Ontology and Institutional Design in Montesquieu and Rousseau.” David has given invited talks this year at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Texas Christian University. He is currently co-editing a volume on the general will with James Farr from Northwestern University, and will be performing at the Montreux Jazz Festival this summer.

Baohui Zhang has been appointed director of the Center for Asian Pacific Studies at Lingnan University in Hong Kong. He has articles forthcoming in Democratization, Journal of Contemporary China, and China Aktuell: Journal of Current Chinese Affairs.

Keep up to date with Alumni Publications.

Faculty Updates

Bethany Albertson joined the department in Fall 2009 as assistant professor.


Terri Givens attended the Brussels Forum in Belgium.

Ken Greene will be promoted to associate professor.


John Higley is partially retired and teaching only in the fall semesters, and (therefore, of course) active as ever. Democratic Elitism: New Theoretical and Comparative Perspectives, which he edited with Heinrich Best, has been published by Brill. In February he presented a paper, “Do Elites Degenerate? American and Australian Elites 1950-2010,” in Washington. During March he headed a panel on Political Elites in Multilevel Systems at an IPSA conference in Luxembourg, followed by lectures about elite theory to Collegium Civitas and the Academy of Sciences in Warsaw. In May he heads to Australia for a conference (see Rhonda Evans Case entry above), and then to Prato, Italy, with Gary Freeman and David Leal, for a conference: “Immigration in Harder Times.”
Melvin Hinich has been appointed to the board of directors of a new private university in Kurdistan, Iraq: The Benjamin Franklin American University. Cambridge University Press has reprinted in paperback *The Spatial Theory of Voting*.

Juliet Hooker became associate director of the Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies.


Andrew Karch will be leaving Texas for the University of Minnesota. We are sad to see him go, but wish him all the best.

David Leal – who can keep up? Check the PPI for the slew of forthcoming edited volumes (with more to come), such as *Beyond the Barrio: Latinos in the 2004 Elections*.

Eric McDaniel will be promoted to associate professor.

Patrick McDonald will be promoted to associate professor.

Ami Pedahzur will be promoted to professor.

David Prindle made quite a splash in the latest University of Texas/Texas Tribune Poll when his question revealed that 30% of Texans believe humans and dinosaurs lived at the same time, sparking a fair deal of attention that included a nationally syndicated cartoon on the topic.

Harrison Wagner’s *War and the State* will be the subject of a forthcoming symposium in the journal *International Theory*.

Sam Workman joined the department in January as assistant professor.

**Graduate Program Updates**

The department has nominated the following recent graduates for various awards:

- **Mijeong Baek**
  Nominated for: APSA Gabriel A. Almond Award for Best Dissertation in the Field of Comparative Politics

- **Steve Bilakovics**
  Nominated for: APSA Leo Strauss Award for Best Dissertation in the Field of Political Philosophy

- **Justin Dyer**
  Nominated for: APSA Edward S. Corwin Award for Best Dissertation in the Field of Public Law
  Nominated for: The University of Texas Outstanding Dissertation Award

- **Curt Nichols**
  Nominated for: APSA Walter Dean Burnham Award for Best Dissertation in the Field of Politics and History
Clarisa Pérez-Armendáriz
Nominated for: APSA Juan Linz Prize for Best Dissertation in the Comparative Study of Democracy

The following current students have been nominated for various awards:

Roy Germano
Nominated for: The University of Texas Michael H. Granof Outstanding Graduate Student Award

Michelle Wolfe
Nominated for: The William S. Livingston Outstanding Graduate Student Academic Employee Award for a Graduate Research Assistant

Christian Sorace
Nominated for: The William S. Livingston Outstanding Graduate Student Academic Employee Award for a Teaching Assistant

The department is sending the following three students to this year’s Institute for Qualitative Methods:

Abby Blass
Matthew Buehler
Kate Schlosser

Keep up to date with Current Student Publications.

**Graduate Students at Midwest**

Following is a list of papers to be given at Midwest by our graduate students:


Joshua Blank: “Political Knowledge and Internet Usage: Knowledge Gap or Knowledge Crisis?” Panel: New Media, Old Media, Online Engagement, Offline Engagement. Saturday, 12:45 p.m.

Matt Buehler: “America and Islamist Enemies: Compliance as 'Moderation' in Morocco and Egypt.” Panel: Explaining Moderation among Islamist Parties. Thursday, 12:45 p.m.


Bill McCormick: “Secular Revelation: Aquinas on Theology and Politics.” Panel: Religion and the State. Saturday, 4:35 p.m.

Adam Myers: “Has Rising Income Inequality Caused Congressional Polarization? A Dissenting View.” Panel: Congressional Districts and Redistricting. Saturday, 4:35 p.m.
Doaa’ El Nakhala: “Cycles of Deterrence and Adaptation!: The Dynamic Relationship Between Physical Barriers on Borders and Evasion Tactics, the Gaza Fence as a Pilot Study.” Panel: Rival States and International Security. Saturday, 10:25 a.m.


Eric Svensen: “Testing Congressional Action Models of House Members in Funding the War on Terror: An Explanation of Structured Induced Deference.” Panel: Bargaining Between Presidents and Legislatures. Thursday, 12:45 p.m.


**Recent Graduates**

Ph.D.s awarded:

Justin Dyer  
Dissertation: After the Revolution: Natural Law and the Antislavery Constitutional Tradition  
Supervisor: Gary Jacobsohn

Darrin Hanson  
Dissertation: American Civil Religion: Continuity and Change  
Supervisor: J. Budziszewski

Chih-shian Liou  
Supervisor: Patricia Maclachlan

Chih-cheng (Almong) Meng  
Dissertation: Currency and Political Choice: Analytical Political Economy of Exchange Rate Policy in East Asia  
Supervisors: Mel Hinich and Brian Roberts

Curt Nichols  
Dissertation: The Governing Cycle and the Dynamics of New Majority Formation  
Supervisor: Jeff Tulis
Kris Seago
Dissertation: News as Entertainment: Seduction or Distraction?
Supervisor: Bob Luskin

Recent Job Placements

Aaron Herold – The Jack Miller-Veritas Fund Visiting Assistant Professor at Boston College for the academic year 2010-2011

Recent ABDs

Giorgi Areshidze
Supervisor: Tom Pangle

Rob De Luca
Supervisor: Tom Pangle

Regina Goodnow
Supervisors: Zach Elkins and Rob Moser

Austin Hart
Supervisor: Kurt Weyland

Patrick Hickey
Supervisor: Sean Theriault

Jacqueline Hunsicker
Supervisor: Sanford Levinson

Matthew Johnson
Supervisors: Raúl Madrid and Kurt Weyland

B.J. Lee
Supervisor: Bob Luskin

Susanne Martin
Supervisors: Rob Moser and Ami Pedahzur

Pete Mohanty
Supervisor: Ben Gregg

Paula Muñoz
Supervisors: Raúl Madrid and Kurt Weyland

Doaa’ El Nakhala
Supervisor: Ami Pedahzur
Did You Know?

Last issue, we erroneously reported that the Department of Government awarded its first Ph.D. in 1931, to Samuel Bertram McAllister. That was close, but not completely accurate. Due to certain reporting quirks in the University’s system, the central records did not list our first Ph.D., but our department records, which we have since located, do. The honor goes to Samuel Dale Myres, Jr., 1929. Our best guess is that Myres ended his career at the University of Texas-El Paso. McAllister was second, and we think he made his way to North Texas. Between 1929 and 1950 we awarded 20 Ph.D.s.

This is a publication of the Department of Government, in the College of Liberal Arts, at The University of Texas at Austin, 1 University Station A1800, Austin, Texas 78712-0119. Comments and questions may be addressed to Alumni Relations.