

Political Science at UCSB

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

SPRING 2009

Politics of Identity: A Research Focus with Diverse Dimensions

The politics of identity is one of three focus areas of cross-subfield research in the political science department. Faculty and graduate students interested in identity study the ways in which such factors as race, ethnicity, class, gender, sexual orientation, and religion shape political behavior and attitudes, and also how various identities are constituted.

The importance of this area of study is obvious in reading the daily news. With the cessation of the cold war, international concerns have shifted from strategic issues to the dangerous potential of increasing ethnic conflicts throughout the world. Current events such as genocide in Africa, ongoing conflicts in Kashmir, large population shifts in the states of the former Soviet Union, and U.S. immigration policy are all examples of situations that are deeply rooted in the politics of identity.

The political science department has considerable depth in this particular research focus. Six faculty members actively investigate and teach on topics directly related to identity. The research programs of two of these professors are discussed in the articles that follow. In addition, two other faculty members deal extensively with the related topics of the role of identity politics in public opinion and political participation.

This year, new undergraduate courses and graduate seminars on identity politics were added to the curriculum, including Immigration Politics and Policy; Race, Ethnicity, and Gender Politics; Identity, Ethnicity, and Nationalism; and Asian American Politics. In addition, several of our traditional course offerings such as Social Movements and Collective Action, Third World Politics, Politics of the Soviet Successor States, and Minority Politics share the theoretical focus by dealing with the politics of identity in different areas of the world. The level of interest in these courses has been high, and several of our honors undergraduates are writing their senior theses in this area.

In this issue:

Politics of Identity	p. 1
Gender and Multicultural Leadership Project	p. 1
Amit Ahuja: Politics of South Asia and Identity	p. 2
Careers in Political Science	p. 3
McDonnell's Year as AERA President	p. 4
Commencement Speaker: B.J. Cohen	p. 5
Emeriti Notes: Liu's New Career	p. 6
Stanley V. Anderson	p. 6
From the Chair	p. 7

The identity focus lends itself naturally to collaborations with other social science disciplines as well. These collaborations received support this year through a grant from UCSB's Interdisciplinary Humanities Center for the formation of a Research Focus Group on Identity. The principal investigators for this group are political science Professor Cynthia Kaplan and history Professor Adrienne Edgar. The Focus Group brings together faculty and graduate students from fourteen different departments and programs to share their research and explore various concepts relating to the study of identity. With grant-funding and contributions from the political science department's donor-funded speaker program, the group has been able to bring to campus several eminent researchers in identity politics from the fields of political science, history, and sociology.

By combining the expertise of its own faculty with that of scholars in other disciplines on campus, the political science department is well-positioned to be nationally prominent in the politics of identity. Currently, seven of our graduate students are pursuing lines of research related to identity politics, and will in time make their own contributions to this growing area of interest in political science.

This article was prepared with the assistance of Professor Cynthia Kaplan.

The Gender and Multicultural Leadership Project

The results of our recent national election suggest growing diversification of our governance; yet we know relatively little about elected officials of color, especially at the lower levels of office that are supposedly the starting point of political careers. The Gender and Multicultural Leadership Project (GMCL), completed in 2007, provides a new tool for political science research on gender and minority politics.

The four principal investigators for the project include UCSB's Professor Pei-te Lien, who joined the project in the late 1990s as a specialist in Asian American politics and survey research. Other PIs are Christine Sierra, University of New Mexico; Carol Hardy-Fanta, University of Massachusetts, Boston; and Dianne Pinderhughes, University of Notre Dame.



PEI-TE LIEN

RANDY LAMB

Lien notes that political science research on racial and ethnic minorities has lagged behind most other social science disciplines and the humanities because traditionally it was not considered an important area of political studies. In fact, the American Political Science

Association's organized section on Race, Ethnicity, and Politics was not founded until 1994. Therefore, it was difficult not only to get funding for gathering minority data, but also to get articles published using these data. As a result, there was not a lot of data and empirical understanding of political office-holders of color, and what data and research existed were primarily at the higher levels of office and among African Americans.

The GMCL is a national study of America's political leadership that focuses on the intersection of race, ethnicity, and gender. Funded by a grant from the Ford Foundation, the project includes a national database of more than 10,000 elected officials of color at the federal, state and local levels. In addition, the study includes a telephone survey of 1,354 state and local officials from the database that provides detailed information on their personal backgrounds, paths to public office, representational roles, and policy stands on key issues. Here at last is a significant pool of data that can be used by researchers to analyze gender and minority politics from a political science perspective.

Amassing these data was a time-consuming and labor-intensive project. The PIs found that elected office-holders, even at municipal and school board levels, are extremely busy people, and it sometimes took as many as 10 follow-up phone calls to nail down an interview. The data gleaned from these interviews justified the time and effort required to get it, as the results of the in-depth survey of minority office-holders reveal some interesting differences from their non-minority counterparts.

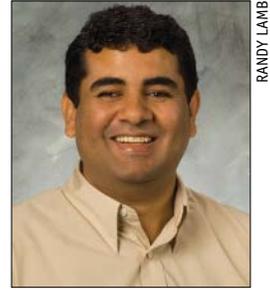
Among the significant findings of the survey was that some of the traditional paths to political office and progression from lowest to highest office (such as union activity or political party activism) were not found for men and women of color. Especially for women of color, seeking political office results more from community activism and involvement in civic organizations, rather than the traditional "pipeline to power." This finding may provide a basis for challenging traditional theories of political participation and political opportunity structure that are based on research data from mostly white, male politicians. In addition, the survey found both similarities and notable differences between the various ethnic and gender groups on matters of background, education, positions on key issues of interest to minorities, and paths to power. These data will be important in evaluating and estimating the potential for coalition-building between the various groups on matters of common ground.

The database is not an end in itself, but rather is expected to be a tool for future research. Lien's hope is that "people will use the data, expand and update it, and draw on it for additional political science research on minority politics and leadership." Ongoing demographic changes in the United States indicate the importance of such research. Currently, minorities make up about 32% of the population, but only 14% of Congress and 12% of state legislators nationwide. However, as our nation moves toward an increasingly diverse population, the time will soon come when the aggregate minorities will make up the majority of the population and minorities will take on a larger role in governance; yet we currently know so little about them.

Comprehensive information about the Gender and Multicultural Leadership Project, including the results of the survey of elected officials, is available on their excellent website, <http://www.gmcl.org>.

Amit Ahuja: The Politics of South Asia and Identity

Amit Ahuja joined the political science faculty after receiving his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 2008. He brings to the department a focus on the politics of South Asia and the democratic participation and mobilization of marginalized groups. Ahuja says that his interest in marginalized groups stems from his interest in the poor and issues related to poverty. "I come from a country where a large majority of the population still lives below two dollars a day and where political equality and social hierarchy continue to coexist.



AMIT AHUJA

RANDY LAMIE

Often the poorest people also belong to the lowest caste." His academic interest in the poor was fueled by a Bachelors degree in Economics from the University of Delhi and a Masters in Development Studies from the University of London. He also had stints with Action Aid and Oxfam—both international development agencies working with the poor—which provided him the practitioner's view. Ahuja says that a growing interest in ideas and concepts behind poverty and political action brought him to the Ph.D. program at the University of Michigan.

At Michigan, he found what he needed for career focus: "intellectual companionship, smart students in the program, and good advisors." Michigan also introduced him to teaching, which he found he really enjoyed. The academic finally won out over the practitioner when he got into the field work for his dissertation, "and I realized that's what I wanted to do for the rest of my life. I wanted to solve puzzles and unearth evidence." The feeling has stayed with him: "It still doesn't feel like work. I'm still excited about research and teaching, it's one grand adventure, and I'm fortunate to be able to feel this way about what I do."

Ahuja's dissertation explored the pattern of mobilization of Dalits (the former untouchables) across different states in India. Even though Dalits were given the vote in 1950 and the practice of untouchability is outlawed, India is still a hierarchical society with widespread discrimination. Social inequality persists and is most prevalent in rural village areas where poverty and caste discrimination are the strongest. Therefore in India, "the voice of the poor is often expressed in terms of caste politics." Even though the hierarchical caste system is common to all of India's 30 states, its electoral manifestation differs. In some states people are more likely to vote with their caste group than others. He says, "My work explains these differences."

Ahuja also credits his time at the University of Michigan with providing some needed distance to reflect on the society he came from. As a result, he is now looking at discrimination from a more comparative sense. "There are communities in almost every society whose voices have been excluded and not heard. How does democracy give these people a voice?" The book manuscript he is working on discusses how marginalized groups experience political exclusion and compares the politics of groups that are finding their way out of social exclusion with new groups falling into exclusion. According to him, social exclusion is important because it has implications for how marginalized groups engage politics.

Ahuja's work is closely linked with the politics of identity. He notes that there is a growing conventional wisdom in this area that

“Identity is fluid—identities can change or be constructed.” However, his research indicates that’s not necessarily the case. “If the identity is not of your choice, has a social stigma attached to it, and if you are very poor, it’s very difficult to work out of a negative identity trap.” Ahuja notes that Dalit politics is not the same all over India. “My work demonstrates that the politics of those states in India where hierarchy was publicly challenged and discredited differs from those where it was not. Differing levels of subordination or marginalization of Dalits impacts how political parties treat the members of the group.”

Professor Ahuja is delighted to be a faculty member at UCSB and has enjoyed teaching classes this past year on South Asian politics and the politics of the poor. He says, “The number of people in all subfields with whom I can have conversations about my work is fantastic! And where else can you talk with a graduate student or colleague about research while walking on the beach?”

Careers in Politics

Coleen Yamamura Clark '06: Implementing Education Policy at Ground Level

Coleen Clark credits Lorraine McDonnell’s class “Education Politics and Policy” and a life-long interest in politics and history with leading her to a greater New Orleans area school, where she is part of Teach for America, an AmeriCorps program that recruits recent college graduates to teach in inner cities and other low income areas.

Clark applied to the greater New Orleans area because it had begun a series of education reforms designed to improve its under-performing schools. Her assignment is in Lake Pontchartrain Elementary School (K-8). There she works as a co-teacher of English language arts for middle school-age special education students who are in general education classrooms with their peers most of the day. Many of her students have learning disabilities or emotional problems, so her teaching duties also include the roles of “psychologist, social worker, disciplinarian, and designated teacher for English language learners.” (Clark is one of only two teachers in her school who speak Spanish.) Nearing the end of her first year of teaching, she describes it as “a roller coaster ride of emotion and downright craziness at times, but all the while I couldn’t imagine myself anywhere else.”

The potential for burn-out is high in such a position, and thus Teach for America warns recruits to set limits and achieve balance in their personal lives by taking time to pursue other activities. Clark has taken this advice to heart by having a life outside the classroom. In addition, she draws on the experience of “some awesome veteran teachers, and there are five other TFA first-years that help me get through the days.” She notes that in spite of the pressure, the rewards are there: “The kids may try to make you give up on them because everyone else has, but if you persevere, they eventually come to respect you. One thing I can say about my job is that I adore my students.”

Clark majored in political science because of a long-time interest in civil rights and “how politics progress society.” While studying

in Mexico, Chile, and the Dominican Republic and working with children’s groups during her junior year, she saw how vital access to education is to democracy. “Education is something we take for granted in the United States,” she notes, “but it is available only to the wealthy in many countries.”

Like many other political science graduates interested in politics and policy, she sought out a position in Washington, DC after graduation and a few months of travel. She worked for the Citizen’s Commission on Civil Rights (a non-profit advocacy organization) for a year, doing research in education policy. While she enjoyed the work, she also wanted to give back to the community in a more direct, hands-on way. Noting that research indicates the individual teacher is usually the biggest factor in students’ academic success, she says she decided to become a more direct agent of change by teaching for Teach for America.

Reflecting on her experience, Clark is not sure she could teach the rest of her life in her current environment but wants to stay involved with this demographic. At the end of her two-year commitment, she hopes to be able to teach another year in the New Orleans area, this time in a charter school where education reforms are more advanced. Teach for America provides corps members an education award of \$4,725 at the end of each year of service that can be used for graduate study. With this nest egg, she is considering going to law school after her third year of teaching. She would like move into a position shaping education policy. She points out that that her past experience in Washington, DC suggests a law degree (or Ph.D.) is often necessary to get these kinds of jobs.

She strongly recommends political science as a good major for those interested in a policy career, because “It teaches you to think critically and write well, and also how to understand the forces and mechanisms that create the society we are living in.” She encourages undergraduate students to take non-required classes such as the education policy class for the opportunity of getting better acquainted with a professor’s research and perhaps finding something that can spark a career interest. “Education is a microcosm of our society and I didn’t realize that until I took Professor McDonnell’s class.” Clark strongly believes that interest in education is a growing movement in the United States and that there will continue to be lots of opportunities to get involved. “If you are interested in working for the public good, education is the place to be.”



COLEEN YAMAMURA CLARK



COLEEN IN HER CLASSROOM

Lorraine McDonnell Reflects on Her Presidential Year

The great thing about a career in academia is that you get to try out new things all the time.” This was Professor Lorraine McDonnell’s summary of both her career and her year as president of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). As an academic, she has been an author, editor of a major journal, department chair, political scientist at RAND, and a member of several national committees and boards in addition to her long service as a member of the political science faculty at UCSB. However, none of these roles provided quite the same challenges as the presidency of AERA.

AERA is the major organization representing those who do research on education. It is both a scholarly research society, advancing education research through journals, meetings, and other scholarly activities, and a non-partisan organization that advocates on behalf of education research in matters related to funding, access to data, and confidentiality of research. It currently has about 24,000 U.S. and foreign members. Before assuming the presidency, McDonnell had served on AERA’s Executive Board as member-at-large and then as president-elect, so she had a good sense of how things work in the organization; nevertheless, there were some surprises during her presidential year.

Her first task was a formidable one: She had to appoint 50 committee chairs for the various groups within the organization, each of which involved convincing someone to give a significant portion of their valuable time to the organization for two to three years. Then, a politically controversial figure was elected vice-president of one of AERA’s divisions, creating a flurry of media and public relations concerns. McDonnell notes that AERA is a very diverse group, politically and socially, and tension between advocacy and research interests always exists in an organization of this type. After contracts were signed for the 2009 annual meeting in California, it was discovered that the owner of one of the selected hotels was a major financial backer of a controversial ballot proposition in the state. Some of the membership wanted to cancel the contract, though it would have cost the organization a lot of money to do so, while others strongly opposed making any changes because it would appear that AERA was taking a political position.

McDonnell’s approach to the controversies was, in her words, to employ a “simmer down strategy—listen to both sides and try to find a middle ground. You can never please everyone, but you need to be respectful of differing viewpoints. These people are, after all, volunteers.” In the case of the hotel controversy, the Board resolved it by giving the membership full disclosure of the situation and letting individuals choose which hotel they wanted to stay in.

The annual meeting is a major undertaking of the organization that deeply involves the president. Besides going over details of individual meetings and events with staff, helping to organize 25 special presidential sessions, and delivering her presidential address, she spent the night before the conference signing 400 certificates of recognition and appreciation for various members. Yet in spite of the hectic days before the conference, she considers it a highlight of her presidency. More than 13,500 members attended, including 2,400 from 74 different foreign countries. Many of the foreign contingent came from the 20 countries that comprise the World Educational Research Organization—a new international consortium of which AERA was one of the founding members. Many of these organizations exist in countries with great internal conflicts, yet McDonnell found it heartening to learn that they opened their membership to all factions within their countries, even during turbulent times.

McDonnell notes that the advantage of an organization like AERA is that it brings differing perspectives on education from many academic disciplines. In AERA, these disciplines include education, psychology, statistics, sociology, history, economics, philosophy, and anthropology, as well as political science. Her presidential address afforded her the opportunity to sum up both her presidency and her academic research by discussing the political science concept of “policy feedback,” which is not just about how politics affects policy, but also about what politics our policies create. In addition, she notes that “education can inform the disciplines” in many ways by providing an excellent medium to test various academic concepts.

Though she will continue on the Executive Board for one more year as past president of AERA, the time-consuming tasks of the presidency are now behind her and she is looking forward to a less hectic schedule. She notes that “it can be a little frustrating to be president for only one year because you don’t get to see things you’ve started come to fruition during your term, but eventually they will come to pass if they are good ideas.”

*Lorraine McDonnell was elected in 2009 to the National Academy of Education (NAEd). She is the only scholar from UCSB who is currently a member of this organization. McDonnell’s presidential address can be viewed on-line at <http://www.aera.net/Default.aspx?id=6112>, and will be published in the August-September issue of *Educational Researcher*.*



LORRAINE McDONNELL

DOUG FARRELL

Benjamin Cohen Selected as Commencement Speaker

In the culmination of a momentous academic year, Professor Benjamin J. Cohen, was selected by Dean of Social Sciences Melvin Oliver to be the featured speaker at one of the two 2009 Social Sciences Commencement ceremonies.

The announcement was made at another special event, a “book launch” lecture and reception sponsored by the Global and International Studies Program at UCSB that featured Cohen’s well-regarded new book, *International Political Economy: An Intellectual History*. Cohen, who joined the political science faculty in 1991 as Louis Lancaster Professor of International Political Economy, is a significant contributor to the development of IPE. The book (reviewed in our 2008 *Newsletter*) discusses the individuals and key circumstances that led to the new “interdiscipline” between political science and economics, the differences between the American and British Schools of IPE, and where the scholarly discourse of IPE might lead in the future.

According to Dean Oliver, “This year I decided that after five years of outstanding speakers from the outside, I would highlight some of our distinguished outstanding faculty as commencement speakers. I was looking for potential faculty speakers whose scholarship, life experiences, and wisdom reflect the ideals that I hold highest and want to communicate to our young graduates. Jerry Cohen came to mind immediately. He has demonstrated in his career that ideas and scholarship matter. His involvement in not only the development of the field of international political economy but his scholarship and policy work that addresses real world problems demonstrates this very effectively.”

Oliver continued, “I have no doubt that Jerry Cohen will challenge our young graduates to use their lives in ways that not only lead to individual success but also contribute to collective well-being, locally, nationally and increasingly globally.”

Also momentous but most unfortunate was the loss of Cohen’s home in a disastrous fire that swept through the Santa Barbara foothills in November 2008. Along with their other possessions, the fire destroyed the entire professional libraries of both Cohen and his wife, Emeritus Professor of History Jane De Hart.

As the word got out about his loss in the fire, Cohen’s colleagues mobilized to do something about it. The past and present editors

of the journal *International Organization* passed the word on to their colleagues on the journal’s editorial board, who in turn contacted other friends and colleagues, until there was a network that eventually spread across the United States, Canada, and Europe collecting and sending replacement books for Cohen’s library.

A similar effort on behalf of Professor De Hart was undertaken by her history colleagues. Cohen estimates that they have each received over 600 books so far, and more continue to come in. The heart-warming response has helped to mitigate their loss, and both Professors Cohen and De Hart are looking forward to moving into their new home this summer with much of their respective library collections restored.

As for his commencement speech, Cohen is organizing it around the possible advice and perspective that a life-long academic might give to young people at this stage in their lives. However, though this is a serious occasion, he says (quoting from his book): “I firmly believe no subject is so serious that it can’t be treated lightly,” so he promises to deliver his advice with a generous amount of humor.

The text of Cohen’s speech will be available on our website news page at <http://www.polsci.ucsb.edu/content/blogsection/18/224/>.



BENJAMIN J. COHEN



TEA FIRE FROM EAST ENTRANCE

DAILY NEXUS (GARRICK GOLDHAMMER)

Fast Facts about the Department, 2009

Undergraduate Majors in Political Science	950
Graduate Students	52
Full-time Faculty	21
Affiliated Faculty	7
Active Alumni	9780

Emeriti Notes

Liu Pursues New Career as an Artist

Since retiring from UCSB in 2004, Emeritus Professor Alan Liu has been attending art classes twice a week and painting up a storm.

Liu always wanted to be an artist. When he took his placement examination for University admission as a young man in Taiwan, he was required to declare a major field of study. Liu was torn between art and English/American literature but finally decided to list literature first. He placed high enough on his exam so that he was given his first choice and thus he put art aside. After receiving his degree from Tunghai University, he took a job as an English news writer for the newspaper, *China Post*, and then went to the University of Washington in Seattle to obtain a Master's Degree in communications. Shortly after completing that degree, he was invited to be a research assistant at MIT's Center for International Studies, in part because of his past journalism experience. There, he worked for a political science professor who had a grant from Pentagon to study how communist regimes manipulated public opinion through the media. Liu stayed on at MIT, getting first a Master's Degree and then a Ph.D. in political science. After a post-doctoral fellowship at the Center for Chinese Studies at the University of Michigan, he came to UCSB in 1969, where he had a distinguished career as a political scientist and China specialist until his retirement.

At each step in his career, he pushed his artistic inclinations to the background, but he never lost interest. While on sabbatical in 1980, he took his first painting class and finally got to express his latent talent. As time permitted, he took other classes through Santa Barbara City College's Adult Education program, and once retired, has been able to devote the majority of his time to painting. He works primarily in watercolor, but also uses oil and charcoal.

Liu says he usually paints an hour each day. "If you don't keep it up, you will go back at least a month if you stop and try to pick it



ALAN LIU

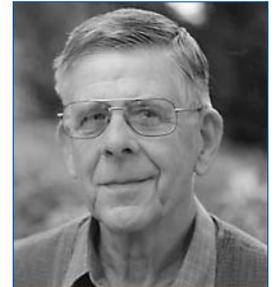
TONY MASTRES

up again." In that regard, he says it is very much like political science research, which he has not neglected even though it has switched places with art in his life. His article "Rebirth and Secularization of the Central Party School" has been accepted for publication in the July 2009 issue of *The China Journal*, and he has finished three chapters of his book on the titans of Taiwanese industry.

In February, the UCSB Faculty Club featured an exhibition and sale of 25 of Alan Liu's paintings. This year, he was also awarded the singular honor of election to membership in the Santa Barbara Art Association (<http://www.sbartassoc.org>), a process that requires a juried exhibition and evaluation of the candidate's selected works.

Stanley V. Anderson, 1928-2009

Emeritus Professor Stanley Anderson passed away unexpectedly on May 26, 2009. Anderson joined the department of Political Science in 1961 after obtaining his Ph.D. in political science from UC Berkeley. He continued as an active member of the faculty until his retirement in 1991, teaching classes on international law, international organization, and American public law. He served as department chair in 1978-79 and was director of the Education Abroad Program in London in 1982-83.



Anderson was best known for his research on the office of the ombudsman, a concept that began in Sweden in the 1800s. During his tenure on the faculty, he published two books: *Nordic Councils: A Study of Scandinavian Regionalism*, and *Ombudsmen for American Government*, along with multiple chapters and monographs on ombudsman studies world-wide.

His research interests continued after retirement, and this year he published a new book, *Reform in a Prison Hospital: A Doctor and an Ombudsman Blow the Whistle* (iUniverse Inc., 2009). The book deals with the difficulties and reprisals faced by a prison doctor who blew the whistle on severe deficiencies in the quality of medical care given to inmates of the Nebraska prison system. Long-time colleague John Moore says: "The book was a fitting capstone to Stan's career. It showed what the office of the ombudsman is capable of accomplishing. Stan's work on the ombudsman was his major contribution to both scholarship and community service. With respect to ombudsman studies, no one enjoys greater prominence than Stan Anderson."

In addition to his degree in political science, Anderson also held the J.D. and L.L.B. degrees from Boalt Hall, and continued to practice law part-time throughout his academic career. He was a member of the Santa Barbara County Bar Association, who in 2002 awarded him the Richard Abbe Humanitarian Award "for his lifelong dedication to humanitarian service." The Bar lauded his pro bono work with indigent felony defendants, legal counsel to countless students, and for serving as a mentor to many local attorneys.

Professor Anderson is survived by his wife Mary Anderson, and his son Stefan Anderson and daughter-in-law Chi Anderson. A memorial service is scheduled for Saturday, July 25, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. in the UCSB Faculty Club.



BRIDGE OVER ROCKY NOOK PARK

ALAN LIU

From the Chair *John T. Woolley*



As we worked on the final draft of this newsletter, we learned of the sudden death of emeritus Professor Stanley Anderson. Stan was a wonderful person and a good friend to the Department. As you have read in our brief obituary, his scholarly research into the institution of the ombudsman has translated into lasting and important real-world consequences.

This sad news comes on top of plenty of other bad news. The California budget outlook is grim. The economy overall continues to sputter. We know we face additional cuts in the department's budget. Despite all this, we have good things to celebrate. Moreover, thanks to the prudence and foresight of a generation of department managers and the generosity of our friends and supporters, I am optimistic about our ability to weather this economic storm.

Our faculty and graduate students continue to be successful as scholars and citizens. **Lorraine McDonnell** completed her term as president of the American Education Research Association and was inducted into the National Academy of Education. **Gayle Binion** won the Mentor Award from the Women's Caucus for Political Science of the American Political Science Association. Binion was also honored with the Oliver Johnson Award for Distinguished Leadership in the Academic Senate. **Rose McDermott** was elected to a term on the Executive Council of the American Political Science Association. **Cynthia Kaplan** organized a highly successful Interdisciplinary Research Group on "Identity," with support from the UCSB Interdisciplinary Humanities Center and the Department.

Several faculty have been quoted prominently in the media: **Aaron Belkin**, director of the Michael D. Palm Center, for issues relating to debates about the role of gays in the military; **Benjamin J. Cohen**, concerning the financial crisis; **Eric Smith** on the energy crisis; **John Woolley**, co-director of the American Presidency Project, on Obama's performance in office.

In the past year, fifteen of our advanced graduate students (or recent Ph.D.s) have presented papers at professional conferences. This excellent record of professional engagement is possible only because we have received gifts from alumni and friends that we can use to support students. Ph.D. candidate **Amanda Zeddy** has recently coauthored a book on political theory together with our Ph.D. alumnus Andy Koch ('86). Several students have won internal fellowship or research grants. **Mario Guerrero** received the Academic Senate Award for Outstanding Teaching Assistant.

New Faculty. This year we welcomed a splendid new faculty member, **Amit Ahuja**, who is profiled in this newsletter. As we announced last year, we have received a generous gift to endow a new professorship in International Relations—the Anton Vonk Chair in International Security. We've been working all year to fill the Chair. We hope to be able to announce the name of a distinguished new faculty member within a matter of weeks.

The Budget Crisis. We are working diligently to arrange required budget cuts so that we protect our core programs. Let me give you a sense of our challenge. The first round of cuts assigned to our department this year equaled over 80% of our permanent budget for

supplies, equipment, and basic operations (everything excluding salaries). The idea of completely eliminating phones, photocopying, pens, and paperclips seemed unrealistic. Like most departments, we had to realize our cuts through reduced hiring of temporary instructors. This strategy allows us to continue our support for graduate student TAs, but also means reducing the number of courses we offer by about seven courses. We know we face another round of cuts, and this will present us with far more difficult choices. However, with careful budgetary management and continued donor support, we should be able to make it through the next couple of years while protecting the core of a strong and diverse program at both the graduate and undergraduate levels.

The Memorial Fund for Excellence. We believe now is an advantageous time to consolidate some previously donated funds into a new endowment fund, The Memorial Fund for Excellence. We will begin this fund with \$20,000, with a goal of reaching at least \$100,000 in order to produce a significant ongoing income stream. We will then be able to make awards to support excellent students, both graduate and undergraduate. Awards will be named in honor of specific individuals whenever as little as \$5,000 has been received in their name. The first named honoree will be our late colleague, Gordon Baker. If you are contemplating a gift in honor or memory of a particular individual, I hope you will consider contributing to this fund.



DAVID FOLKS

Gifts to the Department

Gifts of support to the department of Political Science are deeply appreciated *in any amount*, and we have included a clip-out form for that purpose.

There are many giving possibilities. Currently, we are seeking support for undergraduate research projects and internships, graduate student fellowships, endowed chairs and professorships, and our speaker series. General gifts to the department are used wherever the need is greatest.

If you would like more information about making a specific gift or about planned giving, please contact Carroll Deason, Director of Development, Division of Social Sciences, at (805) 893-2774, or carroll.deason@ia.ucsb.edu.

Tax-Deductible Donation Form

To make a contribution to the Department of Political Science, mail this form and your tax-deductible donation to:

POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT #9420

Ellison Hall 3834
University of California, Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9420

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