

Department of Political Science Newsletter

Message from the Head



Fall semester is just around the corner and lots of interesting things are happening in the Department. We have two new tenure-track faculty members- Adrienne Smith and Curtis Bell- and have received permission from the Dean to search for two more this year! It is good to have the Department growing again after several years of cutbacks and downsizing.

This fall we launch the new Master of Public Policy and Administration (MPPA) program in partnership with the Baker Center. I am personally very excited about the new program and the Baker Center-Political Science partnership. Both should enhance our ability to attract and train top-quality graduate students and place them in good positions in the public service.

Our departmental Advisory Board continues to grow and provide us with great feedback and support. Chairman Jeff Chapman has been particularly energetic in helping us build a great Board!

As September approaches, I am looking forward to cooler weather, football season, and a great fall semester. As always, [stay in touch!](#)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John M. Schw".

Professor and Head

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Fall 2012

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Highlights:

- Dr. David Folz has been appointed Director of the new MPPA Program. *pages 4-5*
- Dr. Adrienne Smith has joined the Department as Assistant Professor. *page 2*
- Dr. Curtis Bell has joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor. *page 2*
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- Dr. Bruce Tonn leads a team examining regulatory barriers to the diffusion of rooftop solar electricity. *page 9*
- The Department mourns the passing of two former students and the wife of a colleague. *page 11*
- Two alumni make significant gifts to the Department. *page 12*

Personnel News

August 1, 2012: Two new Assistant Professors have joined the Department!

Dr. Adrienne Smith (right) completed her Ph.D. (2012) and M.A. (2010) at Emory University. Her research focuses on questions of political representation and public policy processes in American politics, particularly in the subfields of urban politics, state politics, and gender and politics. She is currently working on a book-length project on the politics of women's representation in American cities. Her research has appeared in the *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Politics Research*, and *Political Research Quarterly*.



Dr. Curtis Bell (left) holds degrees in political science from the University of Colorado at Boulder (Ph.D. and M.A.) and Willamette University (B.A.). His area of expertise is international relations. His research focuses on civil war and the politics of failing states. His dissertation explored how leaders of weak, conflict-prone regimes can best use their scarce financial resources to avoid destabilizing political violence. Work from this project is published in *International Studies Quarterly*.

Promotions effective 8-1-12:

Dr. Wonjae Hwang, a member of our International Relations faculty, has been granted tenure and promoted to Associate Professor.



Dr. Jim Gilchrist, who teaches American government, has been promoted to Senior Lecturer.



Professor Jana Morgan has been appointed Chair of the College of Arts and Sciences' interdisciplinary program in Latin American and Caribbean Studies. The appointment officially began August 1 and will run for three academic years. Congratulations to Professor Morgan on this appointment!

Graduate Student News



Mike Norris (left) defended his dissertation and earned his doctorate in the spring of 2012. This fall he begins a tenure-track faculty position at Coastal Carolina University.

Jamie Todhunter, Norris Feeney, Matt Gross and Doug Spence completed their dissertations and will receive their PhDs this fall. Doug has accepted a position at Marshall University this fall.

Missy Buice and Sambuddha Ghatak both received the Department's David Mock Award for Outstanding Performance by a Graduate Teaching Associate.

Dori Stiefel received the Department's John Shanks Award for Outstanding Achievement in American Politics.

Carey Smith (right) received the Department's Lee S. Greene Award for Outstanding Performance in Public Administration.

Jamie Todhunter and **Allyn Milojevich** received the Department's Award for Best Conference Paper of 2010-11.

Allyn Milojevich has been elected President of the Political Science Graduate Student Organization for 2012-13. **Amanda Sanford** has been elected President of the Graduate Student Senate at UTK for 2012-13.



In March 2012, political science graduate students **Amanda Sanford** and **Alexandra Brewer** (right) were elected to serve as the President and Vice President of the Graduate Student Senate, respectively. The GSS is a branch of the Student Government Association that serves as the official voice for graduate and professional students at the University of Tennessee. The fundamental responsibility of the GSS is to better the standards of graduate life at UT by maintaining open lines of dialogue between graduate and professional students and the university administration. GSS representatives hold seats on several administrative and Faculty Senate committees and develop special task forces as necessary to tackle issues pertinent to the graduate and professional student body.

The New MPPA Program

This fall the UTK Political Science Department, in partnership with the [Howard H. Baker, Jr. Center for Public Policy](#), launches a new graduate degree program—the Master of Public Policy and Administration (MPPA). This will replace the Master of Public Administration (MPA) that the Political Science Department has offered for many decades. The MPPA program will still include public administration courses in its curriculum, but there will be a new emphasis on public policy analysis and the methodological skills necessary to analyze policy problems. The partnership with the Baker Center will raise the visibility of the program, enhance marketing and recruiting, enhance the curriculum, and provide access to excellent classroom and office space.

The MPPA program is designed for students interested in careers in public service, whether as managers or policy analysts in public agencies or nonprofit organizations. The program will consist of two main tracks. After taking a common core of courses in the basics of public administration, policymaking and data analysis, students will choose between a management track and a policy track. The management track will feature courses in ethics, human resources management, legal aspects of public administration and the management of not-for-profit agencies. The policy track will focus on energy policy, environmental policy and global security policy, which are the primary substantive foci of the Baker Center.



The Political Science Department and the Baker Center have a close working relationship. The new MPPA program will be the most visible manifestation of that relationship.

The New MPPA Program



New MPPA Director David Folz (left), Baker Center Director Matt Murray (center), and Political Science Department Head John Scheb (right) discuss the new MPPA program. The program is being launched in fall semester 2012.

Matt Murray, director of the Baker Center, believes that new MPPA program fits perfectly into the center's mission to focus its efforts on traditional academics, teaching and research. "This new MPPA program is a great opportunity for the Baker Center to be a catalyst in bringing faculty across different departments together to support this academic initiative, and it will draw further attention to the Baker Center," Murray said.

Dr. David Folz, the director the new program, says that the MPPA will prepare men and women for responsible positions in the public service, emphasizing the theory and practice of public administration and public policy analysis. "It is the faculty's aspiration to equip graduate students with the knowledge and skills needed to be effective managers, responsible executives and ethical public servants," Folz said. Dr. John Scheb, Head of the Political Science Department, points out that most students who enroll in the current MPA program are Tennesseans who wish to make their careers in Tennessee. Scheb believes the new MPPA program will appeal to students beyond the state's borders and even international students. One of the Department's goals, Scheb said, is "to make the MPPA program ready for the world."

Nearly thirty students are enrolled to participate in the new MPPA program this fall, and because the Baker Center has its own classroom space, participation is expected to grow.

For more information on the MPPA program, please visit the program's [website](#) or contact [Dr. David Folz](#).

Alumni News & Notes



Andy Dunsmore grew up in Knoxville and received his BA in 1990. In 2000 he came back to the Department for graduate study and earned his PhD from us in 2007. He is now Assistant Dean for Development at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. Andy has pledged \$25,000 to create the Michael R. Fitzgerald Endowment.

Chief Warrant Officer Robert J. Nicholson III (right) is a Scout/Attack Helicopter pilot for the U.S. Army stationed at McGhee-Tyson Air Base, TN. A Knoxville native, Bob is a 1992 graduate of UTK with a BA in Political Science. He is also a graduate of the U.S. Army Maintenance Test Pilot School and qualified on four different aircraft. He has completed combat deployments in both Iraq and Afghanistan. Bob has pledged \$25,000 to establish a scholarship to reward political science students who demonstrate exceptional leadership ability through participation in campus or community activities.



Michael Muñoz (left) received his degree in Political Science and Public Administration in 2003 at UTK and a Master of Business Administration from Miami University a few years later. Born in Mason, Ohio, Michael attended Moeller High School in Cincinnati where he was selected to the USA Today All-USA high school football team. Michael was a Collegiate Football All-American in 2004 and two-time team Captain while at UT. Michael has served as a Hamilton County Township Trustee in suburban Cincinnati, Ohio; Director of Development for the Anthony Muñoz Foundation; and most recently in sales within Proctor & Gamble's healthcare and female beauty divisions. Michael, driven by his passion for the Latino community and with insights gained during his time at P&G, decided in 2011 to establish his own agency focusing on the untapped potential within the

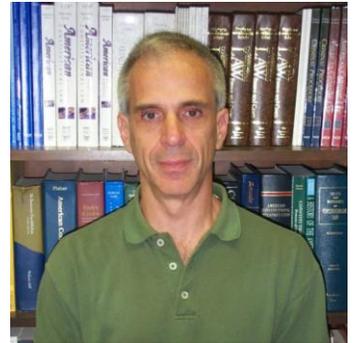
Latino market. Michael is married to Emily, a 2005 graduate in Nursing at UTK, and they have two sons.

Laurie F. Rowe (right), a native of Chattanooga, Tennessee, graduated from the University of Tennessee in 1995 with a Bachelor's degree in Political Science with a concentration in Public Administration. During her time at the University, she was an active member of the VolCorps, Achievers Committed to Excellence, Student Government Association and the Senior Gift Challenge Committee. During her senior year, she was selected as part of the Alternative Spring Break group who traveled to Boston, Massachusetts. Immediately following graduation, Laurie moved to Washington, D.C. to pursue a Master of Health Services Administration degree from George Washington University. Currently Laurie is Manager of the Division of Public and Private Provider Services with the District of Columbia Department of Health Care Finance. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the Greater Washington Urban League and the Washington, D.C. Alumnae Foundation- Delta Sigma Theta, Inc. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, cooking, music, and golf, as well as spending time with her family and friends.



Faculty Spotlight

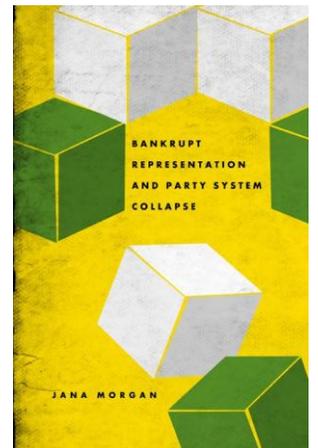
Dr. William Lyons, a member of the Political Science faculty for thirty-seven years, retired from UT in the spring of 2012 and was promoted to the rank of Professor Emeritus. However, Bill has not yet retired altogether, as he continues to serve as Deputy to Knoxville Mayor Madeline Rogero. During his long career at UT, Bill served as Director of UT's Social Science Research Institute, Director of the Bureau of Public Administration, and Associate Director of the Office of Institutional Research. He authored or co-authored numerous articles in professional journals, including the *Journal of Politics*, *American Politics Quarterly*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Social Science Quarterly*, *Judicature*, *State and Local Government Review*, and *Political Behavior*. Professor Lyons also co-authored two books: *American Government: Politics and Political Culture* (with John Scheb and Lilliard Richardson) and *Government and Politics in Tennessee* (with John Scheb and Billy Stair). Bill worked as a consultant to numerous government agencies, political candidates, businesses, nonprofit organizations and interest groups. He also served for over twenty years as political analyst for WBIR-TV in Knoxville.



Professor Jana Morgan's new book, [Bankrupt Representation and Party System Collapse](#) (Pennsylvania State University 2011) has received the Van Cott Outstanding Book



Award from the Political Institutions Section of the Latin American Studies Association. Through detailed examination of Venezuela's party system decay as well as comparative analysis of seven other countries, Jana's work illuminates why party systems fail and how such traumatic outcomes might be avoided. Kenneth Roberts of Cornell University has said "Jana Morgan takes one of the great enigmas of the recent Latin American political experience – the collapse of Venezuela's seemingly entrenched two-party system – and makes it comprehensible in this original and insightful book... [by employing] rigorous



empirical methods to show how party system collapse is related to the erosion of specific types of societal linkages."

Dr. Nate Kelly, Associate Professor Political Science, will give a lecture on September 22 as part the College of Arts and Science's Pregame College Showcase. The title of the lecture is "The Politics of Income Inequality in the United States." The lecture will be in the UC ballroom two hours before kickoff of the Vols' football game against Akron.



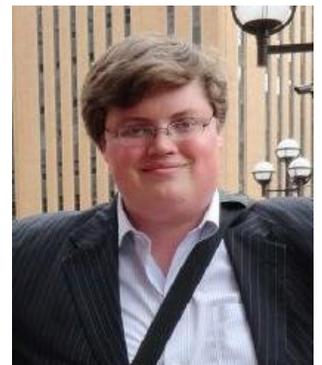
Undergraduate Excellence

Seth Walker (right) was named top graduate in Political Science for the spring 2012 semester. An honors student, Seth was the recipient of the Ruth Stephens Scholarship for his academic performance in comparative politics. While volunteering for and participating in various local nonprofit organizations and working part-time, Seth made the Dean's list each year since his arrival and maintained a 4.0 grade point average. He was also part of several honors societies including International Golden Key, Sigma Alpha Lambda, and Pi Sigma Alpha. Graduating summa cum laude in May, Seth received a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a minor in Economics. However, Seth's affiliation with UTK did not end at his graduation. Seth started the Political Science MA program this summer. He has been awarded a graduate teaching assistantship for the 2012-2013 school year and will be assisting Professor Michael Gant in teaching Political Science 101. Seth also is a recipient of the prestigious J. Wallace and Katie Dean Fellowship for first-time graduate school enrollees. Seth had a busy summer highlighted by his marriage to Kelly Pemberton, who graduated from our MPA program in the spring.



As an undergraduate, **Maria Dill** (left) served as a SGA Senator, Resident Assistant in South Carrick Hall, and Student Orientation Leader. She worked as an intern for the UT Office of State Relations and for Tennessee's Secretary of State, and as a research assistant for Municipal Technical Advisory Service. She also represented our department on the Dean's Student Advisory Committee. Maria graduated in May and has moved to DC where she is working in Congressman Duncan's office. She also is pursuing the MPA degree at American University. Maria will continue to serve as a member of the Department's Advisory Board.

Spenser Powell (right) began his education at the University of Tennessee in Fall 2008. From the beginning, he was a National Merit Scholar and a member of the Chancellor's Honors Program. That semester, he auditioned for and was accepted into the Howard H. Baker, Jr. Mock Trial Organization, and he continued to actively compete in this organization for all four years of his education. He was elected President of the organization for the 2011-12 season and led the program to the American Mock Trial Association National Championship Tournament. In Spring 2010, he was accepted as a Baker Scholar at the Baker Center for Public Policy, and he also served as the sole representative of the State of Tennessee to the 2011 National Student Congress. Spenser graduated from UT in May 2012 with dual majors in Political Science and Philosophy, Honors Concentrations for both majors, and an overall 3.99 GPA.



Undergraduate Scholarships & Awards

The following awards and scholarships were given to undergraduate students at the Political Science Awards Banquet in April 2012. These awards are funded by private donations.

Edgar Guenther Scholarship: Julianna Deyo and Ashford Smith

Arnett A. Elliot Award: Spenser Powell

Vernon Iredell Award: Alex Payton

Kathryn Barnett Green Award: Lucy Boateng

Ruth Stephens Scholarship: Lauren Smith, Amanda Ensing, Christia Hawk, and Leah Hutson

James O. and Minnie Elliot Scholarship: Hannah Bailey, Jessawynne Parker, and Lisa Dicker

Judge John M. Scheb Prize: Blair Kuykendall

Featured Research: The SunShot Initiative Rooftop Solar Challenge



The U.S. Department of Energy SunShot Initiative Rooftop Solar Challenge incentivizes 22 regional awardees, including The University of Tennessee-Knoxville team, to make it easier for Americans to go solar. By streamlining permit processes, updating planning and zoning codes, improving standards for connecting solar power to the electric grid, and increasing access to financing, the UT

Team hopes to clear a path for rapid expansion of solar energy across four metropolitan jurisdictions in Tennessee, which may serve as a model for other communities across the nation. “The UT team understands the importance of reducing the administrative barriers that stand in the way of solar-energy adoption in Tennessee,” said project principal investigator [Dr. Bruce Tonn](#) (top left), who is a professor in the Department of Political Science and a fellow of the Energy and Environment Program at the Baker Center. “Funding and innovation leadership through the Rooftop Solar Challenge will help our state transition to clean solar energy.” The Rooftop Solar Challenge is part of the SunShot Initiative, which strives to make solar energy cost-competitive with other forms of energy by the end of the decade.



UT SunShot Team Members (from left to right): Eric Ogle (Facilitator of City of Memphis/Shelby County), Brandi Grissino-Mayer (Graduate Research Assistant), Kelly Walker (Research Assistant), Jean Peretz (Co-Investigator), Catherine Wilt (Facilitator for Knoxville/Knox County), Anne Guidos (Project Manager and Facilitator for City of Franklin), Dr. Tim Ezzell (Facilitator for the City of Nashville)

Alumni Spotlight: Scott Franklin (B.A. 1994)

Scott C. Franklin, a native of Loudon, Tennessee, earned his B.A. in Political Science with a minor in Economics in 1994. In 1995 he began work at an Atlanta office supply firm that had a fine pen specialty department. Two years later he partnered with his father and converted the family ceramics manufacturing business to the sale of fine pens and accessories. In 2001 Scott created the Franklin-Christoph brand and worked with an Italian firm to create the company's first fountain pen. The retail arm of the company was renamed PenCity.com, which still operates out of Nashville. In 2005 Scott married Tamara Thigpen from Raleigh, NC and relocated there. Today, Franklin-Christoph operates production facilities in Raleigh and in



Houston and sells fine pens and leather accessories to customers around the globe. In describing his company, Scott says, "We are still a small firm, with just a few people, and I like the methodology of slow, controlled growth. We have an innovative business model of cutting out most distributors and retailers and dealing directly with our clients, the end users of our products. This business model allows for higher margins, which we in turn invest into advertising and new products."

Reflecting on his decision to major in political science, Scott says, "Many people have a narrow understanding of what political science is all about. They think it is contained to modern day American political issues seen on the evening news. In reality, you truly learn how the world works." Scott believes that "the ability to use abstract thinking, which is a big part of political science, greatly helps in both brand management and design." He also thinks that his degree in political science helped in his global business dealings: "When I began to travel and interact with people around the globe, I found my political science degree to be more useful to me than a business degree might have been. I understood the political and economic systems they operated under, and by extension the mindset and world view they generally possessed." We in the Political Science Department are very proud of what Scott has accomplished and gratified that his political science education has been put to good use.

In Memoriam

Everyone in the Political Science family was shocked and saddened beyond words at the untimely passing of **Autumn Jennings**, beloved wife of our colleague Will Jennings, on March 27 of this year. In addition to being a wife and mother of two little girls, Autumn was an outstanding teacher at Meadowview Middle School in Morristown. Autumn was a seasoned world traveler and thrived on service to others. During her time abroad, she volunteered at an orphanage in Haiti, taught new educators in South Sudan, and taught English in China. It was therefore quite appropriate that on April 26, 2012, the Tennessee House of Representatives adopted a resolution that concluded as follows:



"BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Autumn Ford Jennings, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Jennings."

In Memoriam

On a sad note, the Department mourns the passing of **Mary Lynn Fletcher**, who died on June 7, 2012. Mary Lynn did graduate work in the Department in the early 1980s. Ultimately, she received a doctorate in Rural Health from Johns Hopkins University. Her intellectual interests varied widely. A polio victim at an early age, Mary Lynn overcame her disability in the pursuit of her goals. The primary focus of her career was on health care legislation protecting the interest of disabled persons. As assistant to the U.S. Surgeon General, Mary Lynn played an instrumental role in the formulation and adoption of disabilities legislation. After retiring from federal service she returned to Tennessee but continued to represent the interests of the disabled in the enforcement of legislation related to access to public facilities. She will be missed by her many friends.

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We are also saddened to report that **Dr. Gary Anderson** (left), an alumnus of this Department, passed away in April of this year after a brief illness. A native of East Tennessee, Dr. Anderson received a BA in political science from UTK in 1986. Upon graduation, he was commissioned an officer in the U.S. Army and spent a tour of active duty in Germany. In 1989 he returned to UTK where he completed an MA in political science in 1991. In the same year he was accepted as a PhD candidate at the University of Konstanz, Germany, where he completed a doctorate with high honors in 1995.

Dr. Anderson served in various academic and administrative posts. He was an assistant professor of political science at the University of Maryland University College in Schwäbisch Gmünd, Germany from 1995 to 2000, where he was also inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi honor society as a Distinguished Faculty Mentor. He also served as visiting professor of political science at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington in 2001 and 2002. Over the past six years he held both academic and administrative positions at Zeppelin University in Germany. He was the head of Zeppelin University's international programs and a lecturer in political science. Dr. Anderson's publications can be found in a wide array of scholarly journals, magazines and newspapers in the USA. In Germany, he was a sought-after public speaker and frequently provided radio and television commentary regarding US politics and the trans-Atlantic relationship.

Dr. Anderson was a world traveler and loved exploring places and conversing with people from different cultures. His travels took him to Asia, Eastern and Western Europe, India, Russia, the Middle East, and South Africa. He loved sailing, skiing the Swiss Alps, hiking the Great Smoky Mountains and fishing Norris Lake. He is preceded in death by his mother, Louise Anderson, survived by his father, Oda T. Anderson, of Jacksboro, Tennessee, sister, Linda Anderson, of Knoxville, Tennessee, wife, Sabine Weigle Anderson, of Pfullendorf, Germany, and daughters, Wendy Louise Anderson and Emily Aline Anderson, of Pfullendorf, Germany.

Focus on Development



Dr. Andrew Dunsmore (BA 1990; PhD, 2007) (left) has pledged \$25,000 to create the Michael R. Fitzgerald Endowment. The endowment will reward faculty who show exceptional interest in mentoring students. The award honors [Dr. Mike Fitzgerald](#) (right), who served as Andy's mentor while he was in the graduate program.

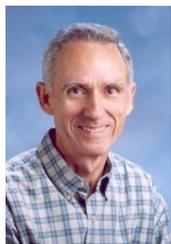


Chief Warrant Officer Robert J. Nicholson III (left), an alumnus of the Department and a member of our Advisory Board, has pledged \$25,000 to establish a scholarship to reward political science students who demonstrate exceptional leadership ability through participation in campus or community activities.

The Department has established its three top priorities for [alumni giving](#):

The Political Science Study Abroad Fund

Established with an initial gift from UTK alumnus **Jeffery Chapman** and his wife **Debbie** (right), this fund supports political science majors who participate in any of UTK's study abroad programs.



The Robert B. and Mildred A. Cunningham Fund for Public Administration

Established in honor of our colleague **Bob Cunningham** (left) and his wife **Millie**, this fund will provide support for the Master in Public Policy and Administration (MPPA) program.

Political Science Research Excellence Fund

Provides summer support to faculty and graduate students involved in specific research projects. Such support is crucial as the Department seeks to improve its ranking as part of the Chancellor's Top 25 Initiative.

