



180 Summer Street House  
 Phone: 508-531-1387  
 Fax: 508-531-6186  
<http://www.bridgew.edu/PoliSci/>

# Bridgewater State College Political Science Department Newsletter

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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Upcoming Events
- 1 Political Science News
- 2 Political Science News
- 2 Center for Legislative Studies
- 2 Upcoming Events in the Nonprofit Sector
- 3 Internships
- 3 Student Profile
- 4 MPA News
- 4 Alumni News
- 5 Faculty News

## Upcoming Events

- **Save the Date: Annual MPA dinner- May 6, 2010**
  - Dunn Conference Room (A & B)
- **Save the Date: MassASPA Event- June 3, 2010**
  - Dunn Conference Room (A & B)

## Political Science News

### Mass ASPA Event

#### "Sustaining Massachusetts: Initiatives and Ideas for the Future of the Commonwealth"



On June 3, 2010 the Political Science Department will host its first Mass ASPA event titled "Sustaining Massachusetts: Initiatives and Ideas for the Future of the Commonwealth." The event program includes a keynote speaker, a panel discussion, and a light buffet supper.

We cordially invite MassASPA members, MPA students and Alumni, community planners and developers, and citizens from surrounding towns to join us. There will be more information to follow in the upcoming newsletters.

### New Full Time Faculty Member-Kevin Donnelly!

On behalf of the Political Science faculty and staff welcome and congratulate Dr. Kevin Donnelly for his recent hire as a tenure-track faculty member at the assistant professor level. Congratulations Dr. Kevin Donnelly!

**"Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other."  
 -John F. Kennedy-**

## Political Science News Continued...

We are pleased to announce that the Political Science Department is in the process of hiring a replacement faculty member in the field of international relations. The newly hired faculty member will join our department in fall of 2010. Campus interviews are scheduled for March.

## Center for Legislative Studies

The Center for Legislative Studies taped an episode of Commonwealth Politics Friday, February 26, which focused on gun control and House Bill No 4102. State Representative George Peterson (R) and State Representative Kevin Aguiar (D) were invited as guests to discuss these issues. The show will air in March.

## Upcoming Events in the Nonprofit Sector

### Tuesday Night Athletic Foundation-2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Winter Gala



The Tuesday Night Athletic Foundation (TNAF) is a non-profit organization created to help relieve the financial burden placed on families that can be inherent with high performance sports programs, providing scholarships in the pursuit of the cultivation of promising local athletes. Through its scholarship fund, TNAF has awarded thousands of dollars in financial assistance and scholarship money to families and aspiring young athletes.

Every day, there's a child or young adult that has the drive and enthusiasm to play sports.

Unfortunately, in times like these, sports programs across the country are experiencing funding problems, especially here in Rhode Island. Some families can no longer pay the fees, equipment, and other costs of their child's sports. The Tuesday Night Athletic Foundation (TNAF) believes that cost should never stop a child from playing whatever sport they may choose. TNAF's goal is to make amateur sports, at all levels, accessible to every youth, no matter what their family's financial situation is. Sports keep kids healthy, off the streets, and teach life skills that will be invaluable throughout their lives. For the past three years, TNAF has awarded more than \$10,000 to deserving athletes across the nation who would otherwise not have the chance to participate.

With the need to continue to relieve these financial burdens, TNAF will be raising scholarship funds at its **2nd Annual Winter Gala on Saturday, March 6, 2010, at the International Tennis Hall of Fame, from 7 - 10 pm.** Tickets are now available to purchase for \$50 per person at [www.tnaf.org](http://www.tnaf.org). For more information, please contact MPA student Amanda Donovan at [A5DONOVAN@bridgew.edu](mailto:A5DONOVAN@bridgew.edu).

## Internships

### Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminar

Interested in interning in our nation's capital? Then the Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars may be for you. This is a nonprofit organization serving hundreds of colleges and universities in the U.S. and other countries by providing selected students challenging opportunities to work and learn in Washington, D.C., for academic credit. The Washington Center provides diverse, highly motivated interns to thousands of organizations in government, business and the non-profit sector. For more information, please stop by the Political Science Department or visit: [www.twc.edu](http://www.twc.edu). **May 8, 2010 is the deadline for the Summer 2010 and Fall 2010 semester.** Please submit your applications accordingly; it will be worth the experience!

## Student Profile

### Graduate Student in the Spotlight-Bruce Hunt



**Bruce Hunt** is an undergraduate student majoring in Political Science here at Bridgewater State College. He is a member of the class of 2010 and plans to graduate this coming May. When Bruce was a senior in High school, he read two books: *John Adams* and *Truman*, both by David McCullough that inspired him to pursue his studies in American Politics (Political Science). With significant guidance from faculty member **Dr. Jordon Barkalow**, Bruce has developed strong skills in critical thinking and research. **Dr. Barkalow's** high standards, great text selection, and his dedication to student progress have influenced Bruce in a number of ways.

Bruce is highly motivated and involved with the community. He is in his seventh semester of volunteering for the Children's Physical Developmental Clinic, which is a nationally recognized academic program that fosters professional development, service learning, and leadership development. The aim of the clinic program is to improve the "total development" of children with disabilities by enhancing vital physical, motor, and aquatic skills and patterns. Bruce also belongs to Sigma Chi Fraternity.

Bruce is an ambitious student who has served in the military and has been on two tours in Iraq. When he graduates, he plans on pursuing graduate school. Bruce has applied to a number of schools and thus far he has been accepted to Rutgers University, Michigan State, University of Houston, and University of Wisconsin.

Congratulations, **Bruce!**

## MPA News

The Comprehensive Exams for the MPA degree will be held on March 27, 2010. Seven students will be taking the Comps this coming March. Good luck to everyone!

## Alumni News

### Alumni Student in the Spotlight-Meaghan Carroll



During her undergraduate career in Political Science, **Meaghan Carroll**, participated in the Washington Center program for Internships and Academic Seminars in Washington DC. During her internship Meaghan was placed in a lobbying firm that encouraged her to execute a second internship on Capitol Hill. She pursued this opportunity and spent the fall semester of her senior year in D.C. During her second internship, Meaghan worked four days a week at the lobbying firm on K Street and one day a week in Senator Kerry's office on Capitol Hill.

After Meaghan completed her internship in Washington D.C., she pursued another internship in Senator John Kerry's office in Boston. The staff member she was interning under, Roger Fisk, left the office while she was there, to work on the advance team for President Obama's campaign. After Fisk left, Meaghan was able to advance her position and take over Fisk's responsibilities, which involved writing proclamations, citations, program book letters, and congratulatory notes.

Around graduation time Meaghan had the staff lobbying the State Director on her behalf to hire her as a full time employee. At that time the State Director left and Drew O'Brien was brought back to the office (he had been State Director around the Chancellor at UMass Boston).

After meeting with O'Brien several times, he told Meaghan that there were a few upcoming staff departures and brought up the idea of Meaghan taking over the scheduling and becoming his assistant.

Once Meaghan graduated in July of 2007, she was offered a job opportunity to become the MA Scheduler and Assistant to the State Director. For now, her job is to take care of the Senator and his schedule when he's in Massachusetts. Meaghan makes sure that he has all the briefing materials he will need for each day, all of his travel arrangements are taken care of, and while he's at events she provides him with extra copies of speeches.

This past summer Meaghan was asked to take over the internship program. As a result she has worked with **Dr. Leuenberger** to help Bridgewater students apply to this program. Senator Kerry's office currently has UMass Lowell, UMass Boston and Bridgewater State students as interns, along with Harvard, Tufts, BC, BU and Suffolk. "It's a lot of fun to work with the interns on a more personal level and be their mentor. As a former intern, I know what the process is like and I know what they're going through," says Meaghan.

## Faculty News

We are proud to announce that **Dr. Shaheen Mozaffar** presented a paper on the "Role-Orientations of Cross-Pressured Legislators: Preliminary Findings from the African Legislatures Project," at the Walter Rodney African Studies Seminar, African Studies Center, Boston University, February 8, 2010.

*The Political Science Newsletter is edited by Amanda Donovan, a graduate student in the MPA Program. If you would like to see something in a future edition of the newsletter, you can reach the editor at [A5DONOVAN@bridgew.edu](mailto:A5DONOVAN@bridgew.edu)*

