Dear Alumni, Students, Faculty, and Friends,

Greetings from the POSC department. Despite enormous budget cuts that have imperiled our ability to provide a quality education, we have had an eventful and productive year. As I write, however, there are dark clouds on the horizon; if the tax extensions proposed by Governor Brown do not succeed, our campus will face budget cuts so severe that we will be unable to provide the classes and services that students need, and countless eligible students will not have access to a university education through the CSU. This year also has witnessed some transitions. As you will read in the pages that follow, former faculty members Steve Horn and Sudershan Chawla have passed away; and in May 2011 Ron Schmidt will retire. As always, I thank our amazing office staff—Nancy St. Martin, Amelia Marquez, and student assistant Kristin Taylor—for their invaluable assistance and support. In addition, I wish to thank all of those who responded to last year’s newsletter, and encourage you to keep us posted regarding your activities and accomplishments. Finally, particularly in this time of great crisis in higher education, I hope that you will continue to actively participate in politics, and to use your knowledge and skills to work for the betterment of our local, national, and global communities.

With warm regards,

Teresa Wright, Chair
Mary Caputi (Political Theory; Ph.D., Cornell University) was named CSULB Outstanding Professor in 2010. Dr. Caputi’s works in progress include: (with Vincent Del Casino) Professions of Faith: Derrida and the Future of the Liberal Arts; “The Manly Virtues: Macaulay's Influence, Wollstonecraft's Legacy,” (provisionally accepted for publication in a proposed volume on feminism and the Enlightenment); and Feminism and Power: the Need for Critical Theory.


Larry N. George (International Relations; Ph.D., Princeton University) has recently published: “Leo Strauss’ Squid Ink,” in Tony Burns and James Connelly, The Legacy of Leo Strauss (Exeter, UK: Imprint Academic, 2010).

Cora Goldstein (Comparative Politics; Ph.D., University of Chicago) has recently published: “President Obama: Look for a New Massoud” Small Wars Journal, August 2010; and an invited book review for Passport, the Newsletter of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Policy: Roundtable on Michaela Moore, “Know Your Enemy: The American Debate on Nazism,1933-1945.”


Richard Haesly (Comparative Politics; Ph.D., University of North Carolina) is in the last stages of the data collection for a research project, “My Neighbor’s Keeper: Religious Identity and Perceptions of Public Policy,” that he is conducting with Professor Liesl Haas. Accepted for publication: “Comparative and International Perspectives” in Brian D. Fitch and Anthony H. Normore, eds., Education-Based Incarceration and Recidivism: The Ultimate Social Justice Crime Fighting Tool (Information Age Publishing, forthcoming) (with Arthur Jones and Richard Gordon).

William Leiter (Public Law; Ph.D., University of Chicago) has recently published (with Samuel Leiter) the second edition of the treatise/casebook, Affirmative Action in Antidiscrimination Law and Policy: An Overview and Synthesis (State University of New York Press, 2011).

Larry Martinez (International Relations; Ph.D., University of Santa Barbara) will soon publish “Is There Space for the UN in Bonn? Perspectives on the Sustainability of Cyberspace and Outer Space for UN Organizations” (University of Bonn, forthcoming).
Charles Noble (American Politics; Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley) contributes to the University of Montreal blog on American politics, and will soon publish an article on the welfare state, entitled “Goodbye to All That,” in an edited volume on the future of American liberalism. He is rewriting “L’autre république” (The Other Republic), a French-language account of contemporary American politics, and in summer 2011 will co-direct and teach in a course on American politics for the “École d’été” sponsored by CÉRIUM at the University of Montreal.

Amy Cabrera Rasmussen (American Politics; Ph.D., Yale University, MA and BA CSULB) has been granted fellowships from the CSULB Research Infrastructure for Minority Institutions Health Disparities project and from the American Association of University Women to advance an ongoing research project entitled: “Constructing targets: race, gender, and contemporary United States infant mortality policy.” Recent publications include: “Contraception as Health? The Framing of Issue Categories in Contemporary Policymaking,” Administration & Society (forthcoming).

Lewis Ringel (Public Law; Ph.D., University of Maryland) has been named Chairman of the National Case Committee of the American Collegiate Moot Court Association (ACMA).

Gerry Riposa (American Politics; Ph.D., University of California, Riverside) is the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts at CSULB.

Ron Schmidt (American Politics; Ph.D., University of California, Riverside) is currently working on a new project on immigration.

Barry Steiner (International Relations; Ph.D., Columbia University) has recently published: “To Arms Control or Not: Lessons for Focused Case Comparisons,” Contemporary Security Policy (December 2010).


Jason Whitehead (Public Law; Ph.D., University of Southern California, MA and BA CSULB) has been offered a contract with Lexington Press for his book manuscript entitled, Judicial Values: Judging, Politics, and the Rule of Law.

Amy Widestrom (American Politics; Ph.D., Syracuse University) will soon publish: “A Deep Blue Hole”: California, the Tea Party, and the 2010 Midterm Elections” (with Christopher Dennis), in Charles Bullock, ed., Key States, High Stakes: Sarah Palin, the Tea Party and the 2010 Midterm Election (Rowman and Littlefield, forthcoming). Works accepted for publication include: “History and Politics of Correctional Education” and “Prison Education: The Inmate as Student” (with David R. Werner and Sylvester Pues), in Brian D. Fitch and Anthony H. Normore, eds., Education-based Incarceration and Recidivism: The Ultimate Social Justice Crime Fighting Tool (Information Age Publishing).

Teresa Wright (Comparative Politics; Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley) will soon publish: “China’s Rising Generation: College-Educated Youth in the Reform Era,” in Zhiqun Zhu, ed., New Dynamics in East Asian Politics (NY: Continuum International, forthcoming); a review of Socialist Insecurity: Pensions and the Politics of Uneven Development in China, by Mark Frazier, for Contemporary Sociology (forthcoming); and a review of Democracy is a Good Thing, by Yu Keping, for The China Quarterly (forthcoming). In summer 2011 she will work as a Visiting Scholar at the East-West Center.
Professor Ron Schmidt Retires

After forty years of university teaching, Professor Ron Schmidt will retire from the department’s faculty at the end of the Spring 2011 semester. Schmidt began his career teaching public administration, but over the years he gravitated towards teaching courses in political theory, racial and ethnic politics, public policy, and California politics. He was elected chair of the department twice: from 1977 – 1980, and again from late 1984 to 1990.

Schmidt says: “coming to Cal State Long Beach was one of the best decisions I’ve made in my life. I had a chance to stay on the faculty at the University of Oregon in 1972, but something told me to accept the job offer at CSULB. And after a few months of being here I realized that this was exactly the right place for me to spend my career. I’ve never regretted my decision.”

A first generation college student, Schmidt says that teaching other first generation students at CSULB has made him “the happiest person in the world!” Among the highlights of his career: “meeting the love of my life” at CSULB (Rosemary, who was a Student Services advisor to the Political Science Students Association while he was faculty advisor to the same group in the 1970s); winning the university’s Outstanding Professor Award in 1998; receiving a Best Book Award in 2001 from the American Political Science Association’s Section on Race, Ethnicity, and Politics; being elected president of the Western Political Science Association in 2005; participating in the Partners for Success faculty mentoring program at CSULB; but “most of all, having a career in which I’ve been able to continue having my mind challenged constantly, and working to help students develop their skills and ideas about what is really important in life.”

Schmidt says he doesn’t plan to give up his work after his retirement from CSULB: “I have more books to write, more things to learn, more places to visit, and I hope to continue teaching, at least part of the time. But I also want to spend more time with my children and grand-children, and they live on the east coast.”

In Memory

Professor Emeritus Sudershan (Sudie) Chawla

Emeritus Professor Sudershan (Sudie) Chawla died on January 10, 2011. Dr. Chawla joined the POSC department at CSULB in 1962; from 1968-71, he was department chair. Dr. Chawla held degrees in three academic fields, including Math and Natural Sciences, English Literature, and a Ph.D. in Political Science from the Ohio State University. His teachings and research were in the field of International Politics, and centered on South-west Asia, including India. He authored several publications in that area, including a number of books for which he served as author/editor. Dr. Chawla was instrumental in the formation of the Asian/Asian-American Studies program at CSULB. After his retirement, he continued to show a strong interest in campus matters. Dr. Chawla enjoyed attending the Department’s annual holiday party, and in 2010, stayed until the very end.
Professor Emeritus Steve Horn

Dr. Steve Horn passed away on February 17, 2011. In addition to his faculty position in the Political Science department from 1988-1992, Dr. Horn served as the President of CSULB from 1970-1988, and represented California’s 38th Congressional district from 1993-2003. Before coming to CSULB, Horn authored three books on the government and held several academic and political analyst positions. As president of CSULB, Horn instituted numerous campus programs, including student learning assistance, services for disabled students, the honors program and faculty development.

CSULB publicly acknowledged Horn’s ongoing dedication to the University in 2003 when he and his wife were honored with the naming of the Steve and Nini Horn Center. Horn represented California’s 38th district as a moderate Republican, and was known for his bipartisanship.

POSC undergraduate Justin Viola passed away on February 27, 2011.

At present, Erik Aho is a Senior partner in Grey Law Corporation, which employs four CSULB graduates.

Erik Aho (BA 2007) graduated from New York School of Law and is employed with the District Attorney of New York City.

Vincent Ammirato (BA 1968) earned a J.D. at University of San Diego in 1971. At present, he is a senior partner in the law firm of Ammirato & Palumbo, LPP. Since 2004 he has been peer review rated as AV Preeminent and Southern California Super Lawyer. He has been selected as a Diplomat in the American Board of Trial Advocates, The Order of Barristers, and several Who’s Who publications.

Abraham Apraku (BA 2005) graduated from Harvard Law School and is a lawyer with the Mental Health Advocacy Services Inc of Los Angeles.

David Ashburn Grey (formerly Grebow) (BA 1962) is a Senior partner in Grey Law Corporation, which employs four CSULB graduates.

Zahra Billoo (BA 2005) graduated from Hastings School of Law and is the Executive Director for CAIR-SFBA. She judged at the Western Regional Moot Court Tournament.

Stephen Boyett (BA 2006) graduated from Marquette University Law School and practices law in Los Angeles. He judged at the Western Regional Moot Court Tournament.

Kirsten Brown graduated from the McGeorge School of Law and works for LEXIS-NEXIS. She judged at the Western Regional Moot Court Tournament.

Joe Banfield (MA 1999) is an Academic Counselor and Department Chair at St. Anthony High School, Long Beach, CA.

Andria Black (MA 2010) was awarded 2010 Best Graduate Paper at the SSRIC Student Research Conference at Pomona College.

Ronald D. Boggs (BA 1962) received an MBA at Pepperdine University in 1978, a MEd at the University of Southern California in 1989, and a Ph.D. at the University of Southern California in 1992. Dr. Boggs completed a distinguished career of public service in the US State Department, US Justice Department, East West Center, and Executive Office of The President. Currently he is a management consultant and a professor of organizational management at the Master's College, Walnut Creek Campus.

Holly Buchanan (BA 2005) graduated from Chapman Law School.

Nate Buck (BA 2007) has been working in reality and documentary television. Though he hasn't yet linked his passion about human rights, justice, and political movements to his work, he hopes someday to use his political knowledge to create documentary films that
will educate and mobilize audiences about social issues that are happening in the world around us.

Ian Calderon (BA 2005) is Field Representative for CA Assembly-member Roger Hernandez (57th District).

Sergio G. Chaidez (BA 2008) is in his first year of law school at UC Hastings.

Renee Cloud (BA 2007) graduated from Chapman Law and practices law in San Diego. She judged at the Western Regional Moot Court Tournament.

Mark Cohen (BA 1991) teaches 4th grade at Twila Reid Elementary School in Anaheim. He is very involved in local and national politics, and is actively engaged in volunteer work.

Celine Cordero (BA 1997) is Deputy Mayor for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, City of Los Angeles. In March 2011, she was a featured speaker at CSULB’s 13th annual Women & Careers Conference.

Mario Cordero (BA) has been a Long Beach Harbor Commissioner for many years, and recently was appointed by President Obama to the Federal Maritime Commission.

Cliff Dorsey (MA 2006) is attending Southwestern School of Law.

Taylor Dudley (BA 2005) graduated magna cum laude from Whittier Law School in Costa Mesa, California in 2010. Dudley developed her interest in child welfare and advocacy while interning for the Orange County District Attorney’s child abuse services team while at CSULB. While in law school at Whittier, she was a fellow for the Center for Children’s Rights, a Law Review editor, and published two articles on children’s legal issues. Dudley also worked for the Public Counsel’s children’s rights project in Los Angeles, the Orange County juvenile court, the California Attorney General, the Honorable David O. Carter at the United States District Court, and the Special Education Legal Clinic at Whittier Law School. Ms. Dudley was awarded the Dean’s Citation for service to the law school and the Center for Children’s Rights Fellow of the Year award. At present, Dudley is the 2010-2011 Robin Nash Fellow at the Barton Child Law & Policy Center.

Amy Fernandez (MA 2010) is a grant-writer at Penny Lane Centers in Westwood, CA, a non-profit providing foster care, adoption, group homes, transitional housing, mentoring and mental health services for abandoned, abused and neglected youth.

Patricia Foley (BA 1991) received a J.D. at Whittier College School of Law in 1995. From 2006-2010 he served on the Glendale Water & Power Commission, serving as President 2009-2010; and from 2001-2004 he held an appointed position on the Committee on Administration of Justice for the State Bar of California. After working at Lewis, Brisbois, Bisgaard & Smith, he currently practices with Steptoe & Johnson in their Los Angeles office’s Litigation Department, specializing in Environmental Law And Toxic Tort.

Michael Garcia (BA 2004) graduated from Pepperdine University School of Law and practices law in Long Beach. He judged at the Western Regional Moot Court Tournament.

Robin Giangrande (formerly Myers) is Director & Client Advocate for Medical Billing Advocates of South Carolina, LLC.

Frances Gipson is Administrator of Instruction at LAUSD.

Marcellous Glasper (BA 2006) will graduate this spring from Thomas Jefferson Law School in San Diego and plans to take the CA bar exam this summer.

Minerva Gomez (MA 2001) received her PhD from USC in spring 2010.

Amanda Greenburg (BA 2003) graduated from Chapman Law School and practices law in Irvine. She judged at the Western Regional Moot Court Tournament.

Kristin Hallak (BA 2008) is in her third year at UCLA School of Law.

Thomas Hartnett (BA 2004) graduated from Santa Clarita Law School and is a public defender. He judged the finals of the Western Regional Moot Court Tournament.

Viken Kazarian (BA 2004) is a preschool teacher for LAUSD. Concurrently, Kazarian is pursuing an MA in Early Education at CSULA.

Steve Kochan (BA 2008) worked for two years at CH Robinson
Worldwide as a lead Account Manager for the firm’s North American logistics operations. Currently he is Logistics Manager for JAG Logistics, an international freight forwarder and logistics consulting firm. Kochan also is president and founder of a new online company launched in early 2011. He plans to return to CSULB in fall 2011 for graduate study in global logistics.

**Benjamin Koegel (BA 2003)** graduated from the McGeorge School of Law and practices law.

**Katie Kruger (MA 2008)** is working on her Ph.D. at the University of Maryland at College Park. She is a research assistant and has presented several conference papers.

**Sun-Young Kwak (MA 2002)** received her Ph.D. from USC in spring 2011.

**Richard L. Langill (BA 1965; MA 1967)** received his Ph.D. in International Studies from the American University in Washington D.C. Presently, he is a full-time Professor of Political Science at Saint Martin’s University, in Lacey, WA. He was Department Chair and President for Academic Affairs from 1986-98.

**Sam Lingrosso (MA 2002)** has completed the coursework for a Ph.D. in American Politics and Public Policy at Claremont Graduate University, and currently is working as the Campus Conduct Officer at CSUN. Lingrosso and his wife have twin daughters.

**Darryl Lucien (BA 2009)** is an Assembly Fellow (Legislative Consultant) in the California State Assembly for Assemblywoman Anna Caballero.

**Angela Marin (BA 2007)** is pursuing an MPA at California State University Sacramento.

**Jessica Martinez (BA 2010)** has been accepted to law school at Harvard, University of California Berkeley, Yale University, and New York University. At present, she is working at the Habeas Corpus Resource Center in San Francisco.

**Jillian Martins (BA 2008)** is in her third year at Hastings School of Law.

**Ted McNamara (MA 2009)** is in his second year at University of Miami Law School. An active participant in law school moot court, McNamara has received honors as: Semi-Finalist, 2011 A.B.A. National Negotiation Competition; Champion, 2010-2011 A.B.A. Regional Negotiation Competition; Champion, 2010-2011 University of Miami, Negotiation Competition; and Best Oralist, John T. Gaubatz 1L Moot Court Tournament.

**Ashley D. Mendibles (formerly Wuytens) (BA 2005)** received her MPA in 2008. She is currently employed with the US Department of Homeland Security, and is a part-time Adjunct Political Science faculty member at Imperial Valley College.

**Tony Mendoza (BA)** is CA Assemblymember from the 56th District, and has recently been elected chair of the CA Latino Legislative Caucus.

**Matthew Meuse (BA 2006)** graduated from Southwestern School of Law and is a lawyer in Los Angeles. He judged at the Western Regional Moot Court Tournament.

**Audrey Mink (BA 2004)** graduated from UC Berkeley School of Law and practices law in Texas.

**Gladis Molina (BA 2004)** graduated from UCLA School of Law and is an attorney with Kids In Need of Defense (KIDS) in Los Angeles.

**Jorge Morales (BA 2002)** has been elected to the South Gate City Council.

**Lindsay Nelson (BA 2008)** is in her third year at Southwestern Law school.

**Laila Nikaie (BA 2010)** attends law school at University of Detroit Mercy.

**Melissa Nonsrichai Gordy (BA 2007)** is graduating this year with a J.D. from Southwestern Law School and a MBA from Claremont Graduate School.

**Ray Olsen (BA 1955)** made a mark on the POSC department by founding and becoming the first president the Political Science club, the predecessor to our current PSSA. After graduation, Olsen became a Senior Analyst for the State Personnel Board. Following service in the U.S. Navy, he joined the State Personnel Board’s Cooperative Personnel Services office. During this time, he received his MPA at LA State College.
Next, Olsen worked for the Personnel Commission of the Los Angeles School Districts, simultaneously working as an Adult High School Social Studies teacher in Watts. Subsequently, he worked for over thirty years in the international aerospace and automotive company, TRW, ultimately rising to the position of Corporate Vice President in Human Resources. Olsen relates that “without the foundation I received at Long Beach, none of this would have been possible or have happened.”

Steve Paine (BA 1968) is District Manager for the Willow Creek Community Services District. He participated in the Model UN in Portland, Arizona, New York and Washington DC; worked on Apartheid Research with the Central African Republic Delegation in NY; and worked with the UN Information Library on an International Symposium on Apartheid in Brasilia, Brazil. Paine reports that “It has been a good life and my time at CSULB was some of the best!!!”

George Palmer (BA 1963) served in the U.S. Navy, and subsequently received his law degree in California.

Kellee Parker (BA 2002) graduated from Chapman Law School and started her own law firm in Orange, CA.

Heather Pegg (BA 2009) is working on her MBA at CSU Fullerton.

Amy Price (POSC Minor) has been offered a scholarship to attend LaVerne Law School.

Dana Randazzo (MA 2009) is a District Representative for Congresswoman Dana Rohrabacher (R-46) in Huntington Beach, CA. Prior to this, she completed an internship in presidential speechwriting at the White House under President George W. Bush.

Michael Santos (BA 2006) is graduating from Thomas Jefferson School of Law with a J.D. and a LLM.

Cory Scott (BA 2002) graduated from Southwestern School of Law and is a lawyer with an Orange County Law firm. He externed for Judge Constance Marshall, and judged at the Western Regional Moot Court Tournament.

Serena Simoni (MA 2007) taught in 2010-2011 in the International Relations program at the University of Pennsylvania, after receiving her Ph.D. from USC and working as a part-time instructor at CSULB. In fall 2011, she will begin tenure-track position at Samford University, in Alabama.

Katy Tavoularis (BA 1992) is President of Tavoularis Projects, which specializes in Professional Association Planning, Event Management, Political Networking & Consulting, and Government Affairs.

Kylie Thomas earned an M.A. in “Global Justice and Ethics” from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne in England.

Michaelyn Thomas (BA 2007) earned her MBA from Redlands University. She judged at the Western Regional Moot Court Tournament.

Zoe True (MA 2010) is in the US Peace Corps, stationed in Morocco.

Armand M. Vaquer (BA 1979) is a Senior Claims Examiner for Crittenden Claims Services, and in 2010 published “The Monster Movie Fan’s Guide To Japan.”

Jalyn Wang (BA 2004) is an Assistant District Attorney for San Diego County. She judged the finals of the Western Regional Moot Court Tournament.

Jeff Ware (BA 1992) earned a J.D. from Jones School of Law at Faulkner University in 2004. Recently licensed as a certified fraud examiner, Ware spent the last fifteen years in law enforcement, and was recently promoted to Senior Special Agent in the Office of the Inspector General, US Tennessee Valley Authority.

Lisa Wiley (BA 2004) graduated from Whittier Law School and practices law in Fullerton. She judged at the Western Regional Moot Court Tournament.

Ann M. Williams (formerly Wallace) (BA 1989; MA 2006) currently teaches part-time in the Political Science Department at Orange Coast College. From 2001-2008, she was a Regional Public Affairs Manager for the League of California cities. She married Scott Williams in 2007, with whom she has a 10 month-old daughter.

Travis Williams (BA 1997; MA 2000) works for the National
Labor Relations Board in West Los Angeles, Region 31.

Nicole Wilson is in her first year at Chapman University Law School.

Antonia Wolff (BA 1987) served in the US Peace Corps in Senegal, West Africa. In 1997 she received an MA in International Studies from the University of Oregon. After teaching a class on microcredit, she moved to Washington, D.C. and took a job at the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW), then moved to USAID’s Development Experience Clearinghouse. Her next job was with an NGO, the Academy for Educational Development. In 2006, Antonia became a Communications Specialist with AED’s Africa’s Health in 2010 project. In this role, she supports technical advisors across specialized health areas as well as advisors actively promoting the health of all Africans. She also has served as the co-chair for the Alliance for Malaria Prevention partnership’s Communications Working Group.

Rheema Aboud has been accepted to law school at California Western and Southwestern.

2010 Model UN club president Steffi Bryson has been accepted for graduate study at Georgetown University.

Matt Gunter has been accepted to law school at University of Connecticut, University of New Hampshire, and Willamette University.

Andrew Kemper has been accepted into the national academic honor society Phi Beta Kappa.

Janae Knallay tied for second place in the Social and Behavioral Sciences category in the 2011 CSULB Student Research Competition.


Alex Lohman will begin law school at Northwestern University in fall 2011.

Claire Lopez was one of ten US students who traveled to South Korea in the summer of 2010 as part of the US Congress-Korean National Assembly Youth Exchange Program. Lopez was nominated for the program by Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard after completing an internship in the Congresswoman’s Los Angeles office.

Michael Mermelstein has been accepted for admission to the MA program at both Claremont University and the New School for Social Research.

Stellamaris Padilla has been accepted into the national academic honor society Phi Beta Kappa, and has been admitted to the UCLA Law School.

POSC Honors student Saul Rodriguez has been accepted to the MA program at UC San Diego’s Center for Iberian and Latin American Studies.

In fall 2010, Andrew Kress worked as an Intern at the Panetta Institute in Washington, DC. Kress relates that “this program provides small number of students a chance to engage in hands-on public policy, from attending lectures given by authorities in various fields, to in-depth policy research and of course, a full-time internship with a Member of Congress from the California delegation. During our time in Monterey and Washington DC, we had the privilege of hearing from a diverse group of leaders including former and sitting state and federal legislators, leaders of think tanks, former and current White House senior staff members, and many more. I was fortunate to be placed in the office of Congressman Dan Lungren from California’s Third District. During my time in the office, I was able to witness the policymaking process firsthand and was tasked with a wide variety of duties including sorting and drafting constituent correspondence, conducting legislative research, leading Capitol tours, attending committee hearings and briefings and completing general administrative tasks. To work alongside the Members and staff who shape our national policy on a daily basis was an experience I will draw on well into the future.”
The student-led Political Theory Roundtable meets weekly on campus. Contact: Michael Mermelstein (mj.mermelstein@yahoo.com)

The Political Science Student Association (PSSA) meets every Tuesday from 5-6pm in SSPA 106 to discuss current political events and issues, view documentary films, and plan future events. Contact: veritaslb49@gmail.com. You can also find the PSSA on Facebook under “Cslb Pssa.”

The Political Science Graduate Student Association (PSGSA) meets twice monthly. In 2010-2011, the PSGSA organized numerous on-campus panels on topics including “Sustainability and Politics,” “The Future of China,” and “Feminism.” Contact: Dr. Ron Schmidt (rschmidt@csulb.edu).

At the 2010 annual Pi Sigma Alpha awards banquet, honors were given to: Hannah Grady (Outstanding Graduating Senior), Kelly Liptan (Outstanding Graduate Student), Andrew Kress (John T. Amendt Academic Achievement), Saul Rodriguez (Political Science Alumni Scholarship), Abdelghafour Louhmadi (Political Science Alumni Scholarship), Jason Bryan (Edwin Roberts Scholarship), Alexandra Lohman (Robert Delorme Scholarship), and Amy Fernandez (Political Science Service). The 2011 awards banquet will be held on April 28.

In November 2010 eighteen CSULB students participated in the 2010 Santa Barbara International Model United Nations Conference. Richard Gieser received an award for the Best Position Paper for the UN General Assembly Legal Committee. Dina Al-Hayek received an Honorable Mention for her performance as a delegate representing Kazakhstan at the Legal Committee simulation.

In December 2010 five CSULB students traveled to the Bonn International Model United Nations (BIMUN), in Germany. Dina Al-Hayek (a senior POSC major and Middle Eastern Studies minor) and Justin Benning (a POSC and International Studies major and Vice-President of the CSULB Model UN Club) were recipients of Honorable Mention for their work on the European Council and UN Environmental Program, respectively, at the 5-day conference. Also attending the conference were Leani Garcia and Seth Roach, who both turned in a very strong performance in their MUN committees. Al-Hayek and Benning received honorable mentions for their representations of Estonia and Bolivia, respectively, and Garcia’s committee voted her “Silent Power,” for her influential role in the passing of its resolution.

“It was an amazing experience,” said Al-Hayek, who is also a columnist for the Daily 49er. “Just getting to meet people from all over the world who share your same passion for solving world conflict, environmental challenges, world poverty, and so on. I loved every second of it.”
“It was incredible to be in Germany surrounded by people from all over the world just as passionate about politics as I am,” Garcia said. Benning was proud to represent CSULB’s political science department. "I feel that this was a great experience in expanding my intercultural communication and negotiation skills," he added.

The CSULB delegation was led by POSC professor and MUN Director Larry Martinez.

Moot Court

This year’s Moot Court regional—held once again at CSULB—was the largest ever, with 38 teams. The final four was the most diverse we have had, including teams from Patrick Henry College, CSULB, Holy Cross, and CSU Fullerton. Although participants survived rain, computer issues, a loud concert, traffic, a blackout, and threatened campus evacuation, they also had the honor of arguing before former California Governor Deukmejian. All five of CSULB’s teams advanced to the Sweet 16 and three made the round of eight. One made the semi-finals. Three—Andrew Klein, Alexandra Lohman, and Timothy Appelbaum—won orator awards. The CSULB team won four automatic bids to the National Tournament.

The Nationals were held at Tulane University Law School in New Orleans in January 2011. Two of CSULB’s teams won awards and one reached the round of 16—just the fifth team to do so in CSULB’s history! Tim Appelbaum became the second student in CSULB history to reach the Sweet 16 twice. Appelbaum and Reema Abboud are the only students to reach the elimination rounds three times and will graduate with records unlikely to be matched. Three students won a combined four awards (two for oration and two for written brief). CSULB speakers Alex Lohman and Matthew Gunter were 4th and 11th respectively. Appelbaum and Lohman were honored for their petitioner written brief. In the run up to the national tournament, the Long Beach Bar honored Aaron Sibley and Jillian Ewan with separate $250 awards for their performance at the regional tournament.

Photos: left--2010-11 CSULB moot court team with Governor Deukmejian (Timothy Appelbaum, Matthew Gunter, Alexandra Lohman, The Governor, Jillian Ewan, Reema Abboud, Andrew Klein, Richard Bosanko, and Aaron Sibley); middle--Timothy Appelbaum and Thomas Hartnett, the only CSULB students to win national orator awards; right--CSULB Moot Court Director Lewis Ringel, Governor Deukmejian, Jillian Ewan, and Aaron Sibley.
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Please tell us about your current activities, future plans, and professional or personal accomplishments.
You may send us this information by printing and filling out the form provided below, or by e-mail (posc@csulb.edu). Please include the following information:

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