

## Department News, Honors and Awards 2006 - 2007 Academic Year

### **Dr. Elisabeth Ellis**

June, 2007

Dr. Elisabeth Ellis has been named a Ray A. Rothrock '77 Faculty Research Fellow in the College of Liberal Arts.

---

### **Daniel Hawes, Ken Meier, and Rene Rocha**

April, 2007

Daniel Hawes, Ken Meier, and Rene Rocha are the recipients of the Lucius Barker Award for the best paper on race or ethnicity given at the 2006 Midwest Political Science Association meeting. The award for their paper, "Social Capital and Racial Diversity: Evaluating the Determinants of Equity in the American States," was presented during the 2007 MPSA Business Meeting.

---

### **Dr. Jon Bond**

April, 2007

Jon Bond received the Patrick J. Fett award for the best paper on the study of Congress and the presidency at last year's Midwest meeting, for his paper "The Presumption of Success on Presidential Appointments Reconsidered: How Delay Has become the Primary Method of Defeating Nominees." The paper is co-authored with Glen Krutz and Richard Fleisher. The Award was presented at the Midwest business meeting on Friday April 13, 2007.

---

### **Dr. Sarah Fulton**

March, 2007

Dr. Sarah Fulton received the Pi Sigma Alpha best paper award at the Western Political Science Association meetings for her paper, "Judging Amy: The Impact of Gender on Assessments of Political Quality." The paper was presented at the 2006 annual meeting.

---

### **Claudia Avellaneda**

February 26, 2007

During the upcoming Southwestern Political Science Association (SWPSA) Meeting Claudia Avellaneda will receive the Best Graduate Student Paper Award for her paper "Assessing Local Governmental Performance: The Role of the Mayor." This award recognizes the best paper presented by a graduate student at the previous annual SWPSA meeting.

---

**Dr. George Edwards**

February, 2007

The Presidency Research Group, an organized section of APSA, has created the George C. Edwards III Dissertation Award to honor Dr. Edwards for his scholarship and work as editor of *Presidential Studies Quarterly*. The first award will be given for the best dissertation on the presidency completed in calendar year 2007, and will be presented at the 2008 APSA meeting.

---

**Dr. Lyman Kellstedt**

January, 2007

This semester Lyman "Bud" Kellstedt joins the Department as a visiting professor. Dr. Kellstedt is an emeritus professor at Wheaton College in Illinois. He has published extensively on religion and politics. His most recent book is *The Bully Pulpit: The Politics of Protestant Clergy* (U of Kansas Press, 1997) co-authored with James Guth, Corwin Smith, and Margaret Poloma. Dr. Kellstedt is teaching two sections of Intro American Government (POLS 206).

---

**Dr. Sara A. Fulton**

January, 2007

Sarah A. Fulton joined the Department as a tenure-track Assistant Professor, effective January 16, 2007. She received her Ph.D. from the University of California at Davis. Her areas of interest include campaigns and elections, women in politics, political behavior, public opinion and Congress. Dr. Fulton teaches undergraduate courses in American National Government.

---

**Laron Williams**

January, 2007

Laron Williams has been selected by the College of Liberal Arts as a recipient of the Dissertation Research Award. Laron's dissertation title is "Endogenous Election Timing and International Conflict."

---

August 29, 2006

**Please welcome the newest tenure-track faculty members to the Department of Political Science:**

**Marisa Kellam** will receive her Ph.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles. She studies

political parties and coalitions, elections, and political institutions, with a regional focus on Latin America. Her dissertation research was supported by a National Science Foundation grant. She is the recipient of the Best Student Paper award in 2005 from the Political Institutions Section of the Latin American Studies Association.

**Shuhei Kurizaki** will receive his Ph.D. from the University of California at Los Angeles. His research involves game theoretic analysis of the origins of war and peace. He is the recipient of the Carl Beck Award, given by the International Studies Association in 2005, and the Dina Zinnes Award, given by the Scientific Study of International Processes section of the International Studies Association in 2006.

**Christine S. Lipsmeyer** received her Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University. Her research interests are social welfare policy and comparative political institutions. Her current research is on the development and analysis of new measures of substantive changes in welfare policies across nations. Her published work includes articles in the *British Journal of Political Science*, *Electoral Studies*, *Public Choice*, *Policy Studies Journal*, and the *Journal of European Public Policy*.

**Elena McLean** will receive her PhD from the University of Rochester. Her research and teaching interests are international political economy, international organizations, and environmental politics. She was the recipient of the W. Allen Wallis Fellowship in Political Economy, Charles E. Lanni Research Fellowship, Skalny Center for Polish and Central European Studies Fellowship, and Political Science Fellowships while at the University of Rochester.

**Also joining the Department for the 2006-2007 academic year are:**

**Brian Calfano**, doctoral candidate at the University of North Texas. His research agenda covers legislative process, religion and politics, state politics, interest groups, and Middle East democratization. He has published in *The American Review of Politics*, *Journal of Church and State*, and *The Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*. In addition, he has a book chapter in *Representing God at the Statehouse: Religion and Politics in the American States*, and has served as a contributor to *Federalism in America*. Mr. Calfano is lecturer in Political Science and is teaching introductory American Government.

**Sena Karasipahi** received her Ph.D. from University of Leiden in The Netherlands. Prior to coming to Texas A&M she was a Visiting Researcher at the Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding at Georgetown University. Dr. Karasipahi is lecturer in political science and will teach courses on contemporary problems and issues in the Middle East and Islam and politics.

**Sylvia Manzano** received her Ph.D. from the University of Arizona. Dr. Manzano is an expert in Latino politics. She is doing research on two major projects: an assessment of the role social capital plays in the Latino community and an examination of the influence of Latino public opinion on public policy. Dr. Manzano is a Post- Doctoral Research Associate.

---

**Dr. Lisa Ellis**  
August, 2006

During the American Political Science Association meeting Dr. Ellis received the Foundations of Political Theory Best First Book Prize for her book *Kant's Politics*, published by Yale University

Press in 2005.

---

**Dr. Ken Meier**

August, 2006

Dr. Ken Meier received the Excellence in Mentoring Award from the American Political Science Association Public Policy section.

---

**Dr. Ken Meier**

August, 2006

Dr. Ken Meier has been selected as the recipient of the American Political Science Association's 2006 John Gaus Award. The Gaus Award recognizes an individual for a life-time of exemplary scholarship in the joint tradition of political science and public administration.

---

**Dr. Mike Koch**

August, 2006

Dr. Mike Koch has been selected the College of Liberal Arts' Montague Scholar for 2006-2007. Montague Scholars are recognized for their contributions to our teaching mission.

---

**Sara Jordan**

August, 2006

Sara Jordan has been selected as a Glasscock Graduate Scholar for 2006-2007.

---