Student Activities

**POLITICAL SCIENCE/ LAW ENFORCEMENT**

*Vegard Aaland's* thesis, “Exceptionalism in United States Foreign Policy Behavior,” written under advisor *Jackie Vieceli* (Political Science/Law Enforcement) was selected as the Social and Behavioral Sciences nominee for the MAGS distinguished thesis competition. The Graduate Committee will select a Minnesota State Mankato nomination from among theses submitted by all colleges.

**PSYCHOLOGY**

*Industrial-Organizational* graduate students attended a presentation in Minneapolis by Bob Eichinger, CEO of Lominger International entitled "Trends in I/O Psychology," September 20. The event was sponsored by the Minnesota Professionals for Psychology Applied to Work.

*Industrial-Organizational* graduate students & faculty heard presentations by two program alumni September 14: *Carolyn Catenhauser* (MA, 2004) is Senior Research Analyst at Service Management Group in Kansas City; *Torie Lynch* (MA, 2004) runs her own independent I/O consulting firm, Silvertip Business Solutions, in Bozeman MT.

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

Twenty five *social studies* students and faculty participated in an interactive workshop about ideas for teaching geography to secondary students on September 25. The workshop was presented by Maureen Trepp, a veteran teacher of geography in the Minneapolis Public Schools and a representative of the Minnesota Alliance of Geographic Education (MAGE).

Faculty and Department Activities

**GEOGRAPHY**

Two long-term donors to the Geography Department were honored at the MSU Foundation Gala on September 14. Both were inducted into the Dean’s Circle of the Purple and Gold Society.

*Inella Burns*, wife of the late Professor Emeritus Bert Burns, was recognized for her lifetime giving to the Bert E. Burns Geography Scholarship and Field Studies Endowment.

*Micro-Trak Systems* of Eagle Lake, Minnesota was acknowledged for its several years of contributions of GPS equipment to the Department.

*Branko Colakovic* and *Donald Friend* were faculty representatives at the Gala.

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Donald Friend & his wife, Lisa at the MSU Foundation Gala.
HISTORY

New History Faculty

Agnes Odinga joined the History Department this fall. She will be teaching World Civilization and African history and in the future offer courses on Women, Culture and Society in Sub-Saharan Africa. She also plans interdisciplinary course offerings in the area of Medicine, Diseases and Society in Sub-Saharan African. Agnes’s accomplishments are numerous including winning very prestigious fellowships. Her research interest is in 20th century history of Gender, Medicine and Diseases in East Africa.

POLITICAL SCIENCE/LAW

ENFORCEMENT


Jim Bailey attended the Minnesota Division of the International Association for Identification Annual Educational Conference, Duluth, Minnesota, September 20-21.


Dawn Albertson’s visit to Bridges Community School to demonstrate her brain awareness project was featured in an October 2 Mankato Free Press article by Dan Linehan. The article discusses Dr. Albertson’s plan to visit Mankato area schools for brain awareness week in March.

Dawn Albertson’s publication entitled “Distinctive Profiles of Gene Expression in the Human Nucleus Accumbens with Cocaine and Heroin Abuse,” was selected for inclusion to the, Faculty of 1000: Biology. It is an online service that highlights and evaluates interesting papers published in the biological sciences based on the recommendations of over 2000 top researchers.

Kimberly O'Farrell attended the inaugural meeting of the Twin Cities Training and Development Network at the Best Buy Corporate Headquarters.

PSYCHOLOGY

Tomasz Inglot was a guest lecturer at the ELTE University, Department of Social Policy in Budapest, Hungary on September 17. He delivered a lecture on, “Comparative Study of Social Policy and Welfare States in East Central Europe.”


Joseph Kunkel was interviewed September 17 by Mark Zdechlik, Minnesota Public Radio about Congressman Jim Ramstad’s decision not to seek reelection in 3rd Congressional district and prospects for a close election battle in 2008.

Joseph Kunkel was interviewed September 6 by Randy Furst, Minneapolis Star-Tribune for an article about Republican National Convention’s Committee on Arrangements attempts to build good will in local community.
Lisa Perez has been appointed to the Minnesota Psychological Association's Psychologically Healthy Workplace Award Committee for 2007-2008.

Lisa Perez was interviewed September 19 by Don Shelby, WCCO Radio about job burnout.

Lisa Perez and graduate student Nate Dvorak were elected to the Executive Board of the Minnesota Professionals for Psychology Applied to Work for the 2007-2008 year.

Industrial-Organizational Psychology faculty facilitated a day-long event for the Mankato Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Institute on September 20:

- Kimberly O'Farrell presented, "Leadership through Effective Communication."
- Dan Sachau presented, "Evaluating Team Members: Common Mistakes."
- Andi Lassiter presented, "Using Effective Team Leadership Behaviors."
- Lisa Perez presented, "Working More Effectively by Managing Stress."

SOCIAL WORK

Nancy Fitzsimons was invited by Representative Shelley Madore to testify at a Public Safety Hearing conducted by the Disability Committee of the Minnesota House of Representatives on crimes committed against people with disabilities on September 26.

SOCIOLOGY / CORRECTIONS


Afroza Anwary received a Visiting Fellowship from Delhi University, India in the Spring 2007-2008.


Steven Buechler’s publication entitled "Strain and Breakdown Theories of Movements,” was published in Encyclopedia of Sociology, Malden, MA: Blackwell, pp. 4479-4481 (2007).


New Sociology Faculty

Emily Boyd received her M.S. and Ph.D. from Florida State University. Emily completed her BA in Sociology at Radford University in Virginia. Emily's dissertation, "Altering Bodies, Transforming Selves: Emotion and Gender on Extreme Makeover," examined the construction of masculinity and femininity on the reality television program Extreme Makeover. Dr. Boyd's primary research interests are gender, interaction, media, and sociology of the body.

SOCIAL WORK

William C. Moyers, author of Broken-My story of Addiction and Recovery spoke at a campus lecture sponsored by the Department of Sociology & Corrections.

URBAN AND REGIONAL STUDIES

Joe Hammel, URSI graduate assistant and Dr. Raymond Asomani-Boateng discussed URSI's study abroad opportunity in Ghana at the MSU Study Abroad Fair.