



University
of Windsor

POLITICAL SCIENCE NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2015



From the Department Head

It has been another busy year for the Department of Political Science. We underwent our periodic review by the Government of Ontario and I am delighted to say that the reviewers were very impressed by the department, our programs and our students. Here are a couple of sample quotes from the review:

“What clearly emerged...is that the Department of Political Science is a remarkably cohesive and collegial unit that offers high quality programs to its undergraduate and graduate students”

“relative to other comparable programs in Canada the Political Science Department shows high levels of creativity and initiative in the delivery of its curriculum.”

It is always gratifying to hear positive things about your institution and it is particularly welcoming to get external recognition of what we already know to be true – that this is an excellent department.

Even better news this year was the arrival of two new faces on faculty. Elena Maltseva and Emma Richez both joined the department on 1 July 2014 and have already settled into their new positions. They are active researchers and both have immediately become central to the life of the department. Elena Maltseva organized and participated in a well-attended workshop on the situation in the Ukraine and Russia and Emma Richez organized the visit to campus of two guest speakers, both of whom gave multiple presentations during their visit.

We have another new face in the department this year. Patti Brimner became our new graduate secretary and has quickly settled into what is a busy role working not only on current graduate student issues but also dealing with new graduate applications as well as undergraduate issues. Both our assistants (Sandy and Patti) work very hard and we don't always say how much it is appreciated.

The biggest upcoming news for the department is potentially very positive. Earlier this year, the university president announced that 50 new faculty members will be hired over the coming three years. At the time of writing, we are currently working hard to ensure that Political Science secures at least one of these positions. It will be a competitive process but I think the department is well positioned and can make a strong case that it deserves to be rewarded for its hard work in recruitment activities, student mentoring, teaching and research. Hopefully I can relay good news about this competition in next year's newsletter.

All the very best,

John Sutcliffe

Faculty News

As every year, the Political Science faculty were active not just with teaching but also their diverse research projects, service and media work.

We are particularly proud of the exceptional work that Cheryl Collier did in her role as programme chair of the Canadian Political Science Association. The central part of this work involved the incredibly challenging feat of organizing the annual conference that met in Ottawa in June. As part of a wider conference, hundreds of Political Scientists met for three days of panels and workshops on diverse subjects. It is always a big part of the Canadian academic calendar and one that takes months, indeed years, of planning.

In spite of the immense amount of time consumed by the conference organization, Cheryl also found the time to be made a Visiting Research Scholar at the Center for Local, State and Urban Policy at the University of Michigan.

Elsewhere, Emma Richez received several significant research funding awards relating to her comparative study of aboriginal peoples in Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States and her studies of politics and new media. Tom Najem, while on sabbatical, was commissioned to prepare and deliver a report for the European Union on the situation in Lebanon and Syria. And Elena Maltseva presented her research at conferences in Germany, Canada and the United States.

Lydia Miljan was once again a frequent contributor in the local and national media. She even made the news this year as the co-author of a report on the costs of municipal amalgamation in Ontario.

Focus on Faculty – Emmanuelle (Emma) Richez

Since joining the department, I have taught core courses in the Canadian Politics stream as well as courses in the Law and Politics specialization. I have also been involved in several research projects for which I received funding from the university. I am currently conducting a comparative analysis of the effects of bills of rights on Aboriginal Peoples in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the United States. My other research projects pertain to the Supreme Court of Canada's role in promoting access to justice and to Canada's compliance with international law. Finally, I am collaborating with international partners on studies of the uses of social media, by politicians and cultural minorities in Canada and abroad, for political communication and organization.



I have really enjoyed the move to Windsor. The Walkerville community is a wonderful place to live and the Department of Political Science is a great place to work. I have been particularly impressed by the students.

Student Accomplishments

We are always exceptionally proud of our students and their successes at the university and beyond. This year had many notable accomplishments and I can only mention a few here.

Many of our students were involved in organizing and running a Model United Nations conference at the University in May. This was an exciting initiative for the department and the university and we had over 65 high school students participating in two days of role-playing relating to the crisis in Ukraine, human rights and even an historical portrayal of the USSR's politburo during the time of Stalin. The students had an enjoyable and educational time and all of the high school teachers committed to participating in next year's event and to encouraging even more schools to participate. This looks set to become an annual part of the department's engagement with local and regional high schools. And who knows, it may end up being an international event in years to come.



The year also saw a number of students succeed in provincial and national scholarship competitions. To name just three, Amanda Alchin, James Dunn and Tina Savic each won major scholarships to pursue an MA degree here at the University of Windsor and we are delighted that they will be returning for at least another year of study.

Outside of the academic sphere, our students have again demonstrated success in their post-university careers. Andy Drouillard (BA, MA 2011) was appointed policy/research assistant for recently-elected Windsor Mayor Drew Dilkens. Brittany Renken (MA) graduated in 2014 and secured a job as a Research Analyst at *Public Sector Digest*, a national research publication written for public sector practitioners, leaders, and managers.

Jenna Bontorin (BA 2014) is currently interning with the United Nations in New York and Kiran Phull began her PhD at the London School of Economics in 2014.

Stay in Touch

Stay in touch with the department and with other alumni. You can find out more about current developments in the department at our web-site (www.uwindsor.ca/polsci). The department also maintains a Facebook page Windsor Political Science and IR Students and Alumni where you can keep in touch with other alumni.

Follow us on twitter [@UWinPol](https://twitter.com/UWinPol)

Please also consider donating to one of the various department scholarships or the department's trust fund.

Even small donations can make a big difference to students and remember that you receive a charitable tax receipt for all donations of \$10 or more. If you do donate to the department through the general university website (<https://my.uwindsor.ca/web/uw/donations#>), please remember to specify that you would like the money to be targeted to a specific Political Science scholarship or to the department.

If you are already a contributor to the department, please accept my thanks on behalf of the scholarship recipients.

Selected Faculty Publications

Brooks, Stephen 2015. *Winning Hearts and Minds? Anti-Americanism and the Limits of Public Diplomacy*. New York: Routledge

Collier, Cheryl 2014. "Not Quite the Death of Organized Feminism in Canada: Understanding the Demise of the National Action Committee on the Status of Women" *Canadian Political Science Review* 8(2): 17-33.

Essex, Jamey 2014. "From the global food crisis to the age of austerity: The anxious geopolitics of global food security," *Geopolitics* 19(2): 266-290.

Le Billon, Philippe, Melanie Sommerville, and **Jamey Essex** 2014. "Introduction: Global Food Crisis." *Geopolitics* 19(2): 235-238.

Sommerville, Melanie, **Essex, Jamey** and Philippe Le Billon 2014. "The 'global food crisis' and the geopolitics of global food security." *Geopolitics* 19(2): 239-265.

Matlseva, Elena 2015. "Cracks in the System: What the Zhanaozen Incident Says about Regime Stability in Kazakhstan," in John Heathershaw and Edward Schatz, eds., *The Logics of State Weakness in Eurasia*. Georgetown University Press.

- Richez, Emmanuelle** and Manfredi, Christopher P. 2015. "Citizenship and the Canadian Charter," in *Migration-Regionalisation-Citizenship: Canada and Europe in a Comparative Perspective*, edited by Katja Sarkowsky, Rainer-Olaf Schultze, and Sabine Schwarze, 127-50. New York: Springer.
- Richez, Emmanuelle** 2014. "Losing Relevance: Quebec and the Constitutional Politics of Language," *Osgoode Hall Law Journal* 52(1): 191-233.
- Richez, Emmanuelle** 2014. "Rights-based Judicial Review and Substantive Equality for Aboriginal Peoples: The Case of Canada," *Australian Indigenous Law Review* 17(2): 26-46.
- Sutcliffe, John** 2014. "Big Business and Local Government: Matty Moroun, the Ambassador Bridge and the City of Windsor," *Canadian Journal of Urban Research* 23(1): 55-73.

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