Greetings from Charleston! We write to bring you up to date on some of the recent news from the Department of Political Science.

First, we need to express our gratitude to the many alumni who have volunteered to mentor our undergraduate students this semester. We relaunched the program this fall, and our students are overwhelmingly positive about the support they’ve received:

“My experience with the mentorship program has been excellent! I’ve loved getting the chance to have candid conversations with someone [who] has experience working in the field I’m interested in. Learning about their journey and being able to ask questions has been invaluable as I head into the post-graduate world.” Zainab Dossaji

“My mentor, Sarah, has been exceptional. She’s provided me with valuable insight on future career opportunities as well as her own background information, to provide me with an experimental perspective. Sarah was, and continues to be, in a field that I aspire to be in… her knowledge and experience has been tremendous in helping me devise I plan I wish to pursue. She has been extraordinary, to say the least.” Jacqueline Gearhart

“My experience with the mentorship program has been great so far! My mentor is incredibly kind, knowledgeable, thoughtful and supportive. As a student who is unsure about post-graduation plans, my mentor has offered me some much-needed guidance and advice. Seeing what someone with a political science degree and similar interests as mine was able to accomplish and experience after leaving CofC has been very encouraging.” Nicole Simon

With reports such as these, we’re encouraged and want to build an even BIGGER program for the spring. You can help by applying to be a mentor. Go to http://polisci.cofc.edu/alumni-corner/get-involved.php to see our frequently asked questions and complete our online form (deadline extended to January 1st).
One quick note about the form: If you’re having difficulty using it or uploading your resume, try a different browser (Google Chrome seems to work best).

Alumni Spotlight: Rhodes Bailey

“I would not trade my experience at the College of Charleston for ten Ivy League degrees,” says Rhodes Bailey, who graduated from the College in 2003. Bailey came to the College knowing he wanted to study political science, having been interested since a young age. “I've always been a nerd for politics,” he happily admits, “and I took way more classes in political science than I needed for my degree!”

Read more »

Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Maren Trochmann

Assistant professor Maren Trochmann joined the CofC Political Science department this fall, transitioning from her position in the Department of Housing and Urban Development in Denver, where she focused on affordable housing at the state and local level for nearly ten years. Trochmann is currently teaching courses in public service and human resources for the Master of Public Administration program.

Read more »

College of Charleston Alumni Awards

The Alumni Association presents six awards to recognize alumni who have made significant contributions to their professions or their communities. This year’s Distinguished Alumnus, Roland A. Cruickshank ’94, was honored at the Alumni Awards Gala in November. Learn more about Roland’s journey and the other award recipients here.

Promotions

It’s time to do a little bragging about our faculty and their recent accomplishments. Feel free to click on a link and drop them a line to say hello and congratulate them personally!

Dr. Christopher Day, appointed Director of the African Studies Program
Dr. Hollis France, our new Acting Chair
Dr. Gibbs Knotts, appointed Interim Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Dr. Jordan Ragusa, our new Associate Chair
Dr. Claire Wofford, appointed Director of the Pre-Law Program

Tenure
Dr. Matt Nowlin achieved tenure in August and will be taking a sabbatical leave in the spring to work on several projects that examine how coastal communities in the southeast and Gulf Coast regions of the U.S. are (or are not) planning to become more resilient in the face of a changing climate. One project examines the role of political beliefs in determining how individuals assign responsibility for hurricane preparedness among households and the three levels of government. Another project examines deliberation as a governance tool for communities when they are considering ways to address environmental hazards.

Read more about Dr. Matt Nowlin »

New Faculty
We also welcomed two new faculty members to the department in August. Click on the links and read their bios: Dr. Douglas Rivet and Dr. Maren Trochmann

Recent Faculty Publications


Support
Please consider a donation in support our programs. Your generous gifts go towards awards and scholarships, study abroad adventures, research projects, professional conferences, and workshops for our undergraduates.

Give Now

Be Heard
We've built an online SUGGESTION BOX for feedback from current students and alumni. Please feel free to submit your comments and suggestions (anonymously if desired) at the link below.

Give Feedback

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you back on campus soon!

Happy holidays!

Tracey