

Footnotes

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S T U D E N T S T U D I E S A T U N

One of the best ways to study for a career is to actually work at that career to see what it is all about. That is the reasoning behind, and value of, internships and similar programs. During the summer of 2007, Irena Nesterova had the chance to participate in her chosen field of Political Science. During July, she took part in a summer intensive study at the United Nations. This program is jointly sponsored by the United Nations Association of the United States of America and the Whitehead School of Diplomacy and International Relations at Seton Hall University. The goal of this program is to provide students with first-hand experience with multilateral diplomacy and its practical application.

Working under the direction of Courtney Smith, associate dean of Academic Affairs at Whitehead School, Irena's duties included attending UN functions, writing up journal reports, and doing research as required. Here are her comments on the experience.

“What good is knowledge if you can't apply it?”

“I've long anticipated a program which takes you further than the classroom and out into the real world. This is exactly what I got with the United Nations Intensive Summer Study Program. Not only did I meet dignitaries from around the globe, converse with fellow scholars, but I also became part of something I greatly believe in.

“Each day was intellectually stimulating and thought provoking, with issues such as mobilizing global counterterrorism effort, meeting the Millennium Development Goals, and Security Council Reform.

“I've also had the privilege of attending UN Security Council Briefings, thus seeing firsthand the inner workings of diplomacy. I can honestly say I learned from the very best!

“Opportunities like this are worth the effort it takes to grasp them. Therefore it is imperative to be persistent and work intently towards achieving your goal. If someone says you have a 50/50 chance at getting somewhere or doing something, remember that probability changes when you're committed.”

S T U D E N T S A T T E N D P O L I T I C A L S C I E N C E
A N N U A L M E E T I N G

Jane Sabes took six seniors, George Sittlinger, Irena Nesterova, Allen Fepuleai, Ramey Sylvester, Ryan Burtnett, and Heidi Killius, to the Midwest Political Science Association meeting in Chicago on April 12-15, 2007. The students chose which presenters they were interested in, attended the sessions, and then wrote a short paper about the presentation as part of their senior seminar class in Political Science.

The department would like to make this an annual trip for the seminar class. "This is a wonderful way of introducing the students to the wide and varied areas of research in the Political Science field," Dr. Sabes said. "Political scientists from all over the world come to this conference. I hope that in the future, graduates of our program will have something to say to the world, and they can say it there."

T H E E X P E R I E N C E O F A L I F E T I M E
B Y J O E L G R I E S S E L

"At the end of my sophomore year here at Andrews, I took a study tour to Greece. This trip became a guiding light as I decided what I truly wanted in life, and how life is meant to be lived.

"After nearly seventeen hours of travel, we arrived in the thick ,Athens traffic, full of buses, mopeds, taxis, and cars.

"The next couple of days we explored the city's greatest architectural masterpieces, religious landmarks and ancient intellectual centers.

"We stopped at the prestigious Panathinaiko Stadium which held the 1896 Olympics and can seat nearly 130,000 people. We visited the Acropolis where the temple of Nike, the Parthenon, and Mars Hill awaited us. The Acropolis is likely the place where Paul spoke to the Athenians about their "superstitious nature" (Acts 17:22-KJV).

"We had a glimpse into Greece's past at the Athens' ethnological, war, and archeological museums. These institutions covered Greek history from the Minoan/Mycenaean period (2700-1450 B.C.) up to the revolution against Turkish rule in the 17th century.

"We studied the country's current struggles as we interviewed a stockbroker and government official. Later, we watched a session of Parliament. Although we could not understand the discussion, it was exciting to be in the prestigious atmosphere and watch senators bickering across the room over an issue.

"Next, we traveled to the Island of Patmos, where the apostle John was exiled. The Greek Orthodox Church oversees the island, so we were able to view a new aspect of Greek culture.

"Sabbath morning we headed up to the chapel directly atop the cave where God inspired John to write the book of Revelation. Our tour guide told us the Orthodox believe that John was given the revelation, but the credit for writing it belongs to Prochoros, John's close friend and assistant. Entering the cave, I could not help but feel a sense of awe and reverence .

“The last stop of the day was the monastery of St. John. Built over an ancient temple in the eleventh century, the monastery is home to a library, museum, treasury, and the exquisite Chapel of the Theotokos, which has frescoes dating back to the twelfth century. We toured the chapel, ate lunch, saw the library and visited with the residing Abbot of Patmos.

“The highlight of my day came during the vespers service held in the main chapel. The liturgy was chanted in Greek and taken entirely from scripture and various hymns. After seeing the devotion and commitment of the monks, I saw my life and spirituality in a different light. It taught me that all the religions in the world are really just separate points of view about the same principles. The one goal of every God-fearing man and women is to live a good, sin-free life and achieve the ultimate prize, heaven.

"Next we saw the breathtaking peaks of Meteora. The name means ‘suspended in air,’ and included the entire rock community of twenty-four monasteries built there. In the 18th century, Meteora became a refuge center for Greeks escaping the increasingly harsh administration of the Ottoman Turks.

“It later became a hideout for the ‘klephts,’ rebel warriors who harassed the Turks and participated in the fight for independence in the 19th century.

“Then, during the German and Italian occupation of World War II, the monasteries were again damaged and looted. Today, only six survive as museums with a few monks and nuns.

“To me, these peaks are easily some of the world’s greatest natural wonders, because the mountains are formed only from river sediment and rock smashed together.

"Next we traveled to Delphi, which the ancients believed was the center of the world. Mythology says that two eagles, released in opposite directions by Zeus, met again at Delphi. The exact place they landed was indicated by an "omphalos" (cylinder shaped stone) and became the center of the world.

“I was under the impression that the site would be in a remote location and stand as a small temple surrounded by a few small gardens. But Delphi is full of small temples, baths, treasuries, a theater, a stadium, and the temple of Apollo where the oracle resided.

"One of our last stops on the tour was the small town of Olympia, where the Olympic Games began in 776 BCE. In addition, Olympia houses the temple of Zeus, and the exquisite statue of Nike. Interestingly, there was an ancient tradition which said that all wars and quarrels would stop among neighboring city-states a month prior to the games.

"With the remaining time we visited Corinth, Sparta, Mani, a Mycenaean citadel, the ancient battlefield of Thermopylae, and an oil-coop where some of the world’s purest olive oil is made.

"The tour was an immense learning experience for me. I have learned that to enjoy life, you must step away from modern society’s hustle and take time to savor life’s simple pleasures. I have also learned that I have taken a lot of things for granted in life.

“I found myself bitter at times when there was no hot water, Taco Bell’s, cable TV’s, or 110v power outlets for my convenience. But the Greek people don’t gripe about this. Instead, they took pride in it. They identify themselves by holding onto their

traditions—not material things. This contentment is something I will remember and hope to carry with me always."

T H E T R I P T O G R E E C E
B Y J O E U N D E R H I L L

"At 6:00 a.m. May 7, 2007 a group of students and professor Jane Sabes gathered to begin their adventure in Greece. Over 14 hours later, we landed in Athens.

"On this trip we visited seven locations of interest; Athens, Patmos, Meteora, Olympia, Delphi, Mani, and Corinth. At each of these cities we learned about their history and importance from the local guides.

"One of the most fascinating things was the culture of the people. They are very warm and friendly; and also very religious. There are approximately 11 million people in Greece, and 98% of them are Eastern Orthodox.

"One of our assignments was to read *Eleni* which gave us an insight into the traditions and lifestyle of the Greek people. In the book, religion was a major part of daily life.

"While in Greece it was clear that religion was still a major part of life. Eastern Orthodox religion is filled with symbolism. Every aspect of their service has a symbol and a meaning behind it, which everyone seems to know, however, at times religion also seemed to be very shallow and more of a tradition than a relationship.

"Every place we traveled we saw ruins; one of our guides told us that anywhere you dig in Greece you find ruins. For example, in Athens one building had an "L" cut into its first floor because of ruins which were found during construction. Another example is the subway in Athens. All the stations have artifacts which were found during construction.

"There are an amazing number of museums in Greece. Even those not as interested in history still appreciated the beauty of the artifacts, some of which were more than 4,000 years old. The big ruins were a favorite of everyone, especially the Acropolis in Athens.

"Another favorite stop was the island of Patmos. We had the unique privilege of visiting with the abbot of the monastery, discussing many topics ranging from politics to religion and the role of women in the church.

"The abbot was very friendly and took us to their restoration room where they restore the icons. He also showed us the library, a privilege not everyone is granted, and showed us hand-written gospels from the 11th century.

"We also had lunch at the monastery, during which men and women ate separately. We left Patmos in awe at being in the same place as the apostle John when he wrote the book of Revelation.

"Another neat place we visited was Meteora, which is known for its monasteries on the cliffs and for its rock climbing. It was amazing how the monks built the monasteries without the use of modern technology.

"Olympia and Delphi were interesting for their insight into the ancient Greek lifestyle and beliefs.

We were also able to visit the Parliament and the Greek stock exchange which gave us the opportunity learn about the politics and structure of the country today.

“The trip to Greece was an amazing trip, and I felt very privileged to have traveled with an awesome group of people, and very grateful to Dr. Sabes for all the work she put in to make the trip so memorable. There is nothing like hands on learning, and for 14 days we were able to touch, taste, and see history and politics. We have memories to last a lifetime. What a great way to spend the first two weeks of summer vacation!”

P O L I T I C A L S C I E N C E
A F U L L M A J O R

“ I t h i n k i t ' s o n e o f t h e b e s t i d e a s y e t ! ”

— J a s o n M i l l e r

F r e s h m a n

Political Science started as an interdisciplinary major and has steadily attracted more and more students from many different countries. May of 2007 saw the largest number of Political Science majors graduating since the inception of the program, with graduates from Canada, Mexico, American Samoa, and Russia.

As a result of this interest, the History and Political Science Department instated a full major in Political Science, and Fall semester, 2007, the department accepted it's first full majors into the program.

Jason Miller, freshman Political Science major, commented, "I'm thrilled with the full major here at Andrews. I think it's one of the best ideas yet because people need to understand how government works. We need people with good principles in government and people concerned about religious liberties.

“I've always been interested in why people make the decisions they do and how those decisions can affect others,” Miller went on. "The old interdisciplinary major would have interested me, but it might not have given me the courses I wanted. I'd like to be a lawyer, or government official of some kind. I'm glad AU offers a full major."

Currently, the department has 34 majors taking Political Science.

P o l i t i c a l S c i e n c e H o n o r s S o c i e t y .

With the full major, the department established a chapter in Pi Sigma Alpha, the national honors society for Political Science. Gary Wood is the faculty advisor. Political Science students in their junior year with at least 10 credits in the major and a 'B' average in those credits are eligible to join.

F A C U L T Y N O T E S

Dr. Land is now responsible for most of the upper division American History courses, and recently taught the undergraduate research seminar in history. He is hopeful that some of the students will be able to present their research at a conference.

He attended the Conference on Faith and History at Oklahoma Baptist University, chairing a session on Adventism and Fundamentalism/Evangelicalism. At the ASDAH meeting at Oakwood College, he gave an informal response to Carlos Schwantes's Sabbath morning presentation on Adventists and time.

Land has begun a long-term project---a biography of Uriah Smith. Publications this year were limited to an entry on William Miller in the Encyclopedia of Religious Revivals in America and reviews of Keith Thomson's *Before Darwin*, and Malcolm Bull's and Keith Lockhart's *Seeking a Sanctuary: Seventh-day Adventism and the American Dream*. He recommends this book as the best one for anyone interested in understanding Adventism.

Brian Strayer has a book coming out. *Suffering Saints: Jansenists and Convulsionnaires in France, 1640-1790* will be published by Sussex Academic Press in May of 2008. He had an article published in the April 2006 issue of the *Adventist Review*, "Women and Witness", and wrote a chapter on the Hugenots and the Edict of Fontainebleau for the book *Persecution and Pluralism: Calvinists and Religious Minorities in Early Modern Europe, 1550-1700*, edited by David Trim and Richard Bonney. His current research project is a co-authored biography with Linda Mack of Dr. Blythe Owen, music professor and composer-in-residence at Andrews University.

John Markovic, continued teaching his full load of classes, while wishing he could dispense with quizzes, papers and exams and simply assign grades based on his personal assessment of the student's progress. Unfortunately, the school might look askance at such a subjective practice, and since they pay him, and he can't retire yet . . .

Currently, Markovic is researching the history and usage of the term "Spiritual Israel." The idea touches on such concepts as discontinuity between the Biblical Israel and the Biblical Church, the end of Israel and the beginning of the Church, and the replacement of Israel with the Church. The use of the phrase also includes the question of God's character, the integrity of God's plan of salvation, and the meaning of free will, all of which are important for Christians today.

Jane Sabes led 18 students on a study tour to Greece in May. (See the previous article for details.) She also attended the Southwestern Social Science Association conference and participated in two panels, chairing one. She presented a paper as well, "Petitioning for Recall: Reasons and Rationale." Two more papers she authored have been published, "Judicial Perspectives on Recall" in the *Judges Journal*, Spring 2006, Vol 45, No. 2 and "The Experience of Local Michigan Officials Targeted for Recall" in *Michigan Academician*, Vol XXXVII, Spring 2007, No. 1-3, pp. 77-92. Two more papers, "Politics: A Biblical Perspective" and "Pages and Presidents" are accepted for publication, but are not out yet.

Gary Wood, our new Political Science faculty, spent almost two weeks visiting with family and friends in sunny southern California. He is continuing work on two research projects. One examines the political thought of Alonzo T. Jones, a Seventh-day Adventist religious liberty advocate who was prominent in the field from 1888 to the early 1900s.

His second project involves the thought of Leo Strauss. Strauss was a German-Jewish political philosopher who emigrated to the United States in 1938 and taught at the New School for Social Research and later the University of Chicago. His interest in the apparently irreconcilable claims of reason and revelation inspired his studies on the

Hebrew Bible. Dr. Wood is concentrating on Strauss's defense of Biblical revelation and his critique of modern theology.

FROM THE CHAIR

The most important development of the past year has been the introduction of a full political science major. The department had such a major back in the early 1970s but it was dropped because it did not attract many students. We trust that our experience this time will be more successful. This past school year we had 24 political science, 20 history, and 5 social studies majors. This current year, the number of political science majors has increased even more. Obviously, we like the increase in political science but we need to shore up the history numbers as well and will be working on that.

Reflecting the new major, we now have separate research seminars for history and political science, which offer greater opportunity for the teachers to guide the students in their work. Last spring, one history student, Kelly Chichester, presented her research on the Benton Harbor riots of the 1960s to the Purdue University undergraduate research conference.

During the current school year the department has been busy preparing materials for the upcoming North Central accreditation visit. The main emphasis thus far has been preparing a report of our assessment program, a process that has provided us with ideas about how we might approach assessment in the future.

Finally, our web page is becoming increasingly important and informative. For our students, we have now placed our undergraduate handbook and current course syllabi on the web. Of broader interest, the website now has pictures of recent study tours and a five-year summary of research and publications, among other things. I invite you to visit the website at <http://www.andrews.edu/cas/history/index.html>. Also, please send us information, including pictures, about your activities, for we would like to add information about our alumni to the website.

Alumni Notes

Janet Prouty Brock and her husband Lawrence are now at Fraser Valley Adventist Academy where she is Alumni/Development Director and he is teaching senior math, physics and chemistry. They have four children, Lauralee, James, Steven and Janelle, and one grandchild.