On behalf of all in the Arizona Political Science family I want to extend a warm and enthusiastic welcome to all of you in our incoming class of graduate students. You are part of an exceptionally able group of young scholars who are about to embark on an exciting and—we hope—intellectually satisfying intellectual journey. The first semester of graduate study is a time for exploring new ways of thinking about politics and the political institutions and behaviors that define public life. It is also a time for rethinking what it means to be a student. If there is one overriding goal of our graduate program, it is to properly educate and socialize our students into the profession of political science. Graduate training is professional training, and which means that as a graduate student you are not merely a student, you also assume the role of apprentice and, eventually, a junior colleague.

You will encounter much that is new and different in the coming weeks and months as you settle in to your seminars and assistantship duties. At the very least we expect you will be exposed to, and begin to appreciate, a broad array of the problems and puzzles that motivate contemporary political science. In the process we hope to stimulate, excite and challenge you. Always keep in mind that the faculty and more senior graduate students are fully prepared to guide, advise and mentor you along the way. Ultimately, however, you will have to take charge of your own intellectual curiosity to chart a path toward a successful professional career.

Dear All,

Welcome and welcome back. I hope you enjoyed the summer. In conjunction with faculty and graduate students, I implemented some changes to improve upon our strengths and provide all students with a solid foundation to compete successfully on the job market. In an effort to build a stronger base for academic achievement, I have revamped POL 601 and 602, which will be held every Friday afternoon from 3:00-4:15PM in room 332 Social Sciences. Fundamentally, these and other changes are intended to create more opportunities for faculty-graduate student interaction and strengthen the core structure of our program to make you even more competitive on the job market. As you know these courses are required for first-year students; however, I strongly recommend that all graduate students participate in these intellectual exchanges. Every Friday afternoon a different faculty member will either present his/her research or discuss an important topic, such as how to read and critique journal articles, how to publish, how to write a successful dissertation grant proposal, how to prepare for a job interview, to name a few of the upcoming topics. Hence Friday afternoons from 3:00-4:15 are meant not only to provide opportunities for quality “face-time” with our faculty, but they are also intended to distribute valuable information about succeeding in graduate school and ultimately academics. Again the goal is to provide a strong foundation that will prepare you for the competitive job market and promote a collegial intellectually stimulating environment. My primary role as Director of Graduate Studies is to help you progress in our program in a timely and productive manner and increase the level of intellectual exchanges between faculty and graduate student.
WELCOME
CLASS 2006 - 2007

American

Ruth Alminas
Received her BA from University of Colorado @ Boulder and an MA from University of Chicago

Eric Burnheimer
Received his BA from Northwestern University.

Alicia Forster (aka Diana)
Received her BA from the College of Charleston

Tiffany Harper
Received her BA from University of Texas

Keni Sturgeon
Received her BA from Sonoma State University and an MA from Arizona State University

Comparative

Zachary Shipley
Received his BA from University of Oklahoma.

International Relations

David Boulton
Received his BA from University of Bristol.

Adam Sirimarco
Received his BA from Colorado State University

Kara Ellerby
Received her BA from Lake Forest College

NEW FACULTY MEMBERS

Faten Ghosn, Assistant Professor. Faten comes to us from Penn State University where she received her Ph.D in 2006 with a concentration in International Relations (Conflict and Middle Eastern Politics). Her office is room 335; 621-7321; fghosn@email.arizona.edu

Nadia Khatib, Assistant Professor. Nadia comes to us from SUNY-Stonybrook where she will receive her Ph.D. in 2007 with a concentration in American Politics and Methods (Political Behavior and Political Psychology). Her office is room 314D; 621-1545; nkhatib@email.arizona.edu
A WORD FROM THE PSGSA
Keith Grant, President

On behalf of the PSGSA, I would like to extend a warm welcome to everyone returning after what I hope was a productive, rewarding, and relaxing summer. Additionally, please join me in welcoming the incoming class of 2006, and wishing them all the best of luck as they begin their graduate careers at the University of Arizona.

As this year begins, it is incredibly important to (re)establish a sense of community built around our common interests and abilities—graduate school is engaging yet challenging experience. It is easy and natural to feel overwhelmed or lost at times. In these situations, we must depend on the support of our colleagues, who are both wonderful friends and excellent collaborators. To this end, I highly encourage our incoming students get to know the other members of our community, and I would request that those returning would put aside some time to offer advise and assistance in this time of transition. The Friday afternoon series (part of 601/602) provides an excellent opportunity to build this sense of community, and I hope to see many of you there.

Finally, I would like to wish everyone the best of luck in their pursuits. We have students at all phases of their studies—best of luck to those working on dissertations, preparing for exams, writing masters' papers, and beginning what is sure to be a rewarding and intellectually stimulating year.

As always, if I can be of assistance in any way, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,
Keith Grant

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday August 25 we will start the revamped version of POL 601/602 with a panel of graduate student presentations—these three students have had a paper accepted at the upcoming APSA meeting so your attendance and comments are welcome

PRE-APSA GRADUATE STUDENT PRESENTATIONS
Panel Chair: Laura Langer
Paper Presenters:
1. Michael Lerma, "INDIGENEITY AND HOMELAND. . . where my dead lie buried .”
2. Katharine Petersen, “Hegemonic Influence and the Creation of Regional Architecture in Latin America.”

Discussants: Bill Dixon and Laura Langer

All papers will be posted on the department’s webpage.

Also on August 25 I will hold our first graduate student meeting, which is required for all funded students. The meeting will begin immediately following the student presentations.

Lastly, the schedule for POL601/602 will be posted on the department’s webpage and my webpage.
Great news! We have extra travel money, which means we can increase the travel stipend to $400 per student. Also, we have increased the travel award for graduate students who are on the job market to $500 when they present a paper at a professional conference—we also will offer these students additional funds if they present a paper at a second conference. So don’t forget to apply for these travel funds when you present a paper at a professional conference. If you are presenting a paper at the APSA, please submit your application as soon as possible—in the future the deadline for APSA travel money will be August 15. The deadline for funding for all other Fall conferences is September 10th and for Spring conferences, the application deadline is January 22nd. The application may be found at http://w3.arizona.edu/~polisci/grad/gp_program.html. You will need a letter from your advisor to accompany your request and you will need to present your paper in the 601 forum on Friday afternoons 3:00-4:15PM.

Applications returned by the deadline will receive priority. Any travel funds remaining after the initial distributions will be allocated to late applications and application for a second Conference with priority given to students on the job market. If you are approved for travel and cancel your trip, please notify the Graduate Coordinator so that we can redistribute the money. In addition, anytime you travel (if school related) you will need to notify the Graduate Coordinator five (5) days in advance to file the appropriate paperwork, otherwise you may not be reimbursed. You will need to turn in receipts and a copy of the paper you presented to the Graduate Coordinator within one week of your return.
UPCOMING CONFERENCES

FALL 2006 Conferences

September 2006

August 31 - September 3
American Political Science Association
APSA Annual Meeting-Philadelphia, PA
http://www.apsanet.org/section_73.cfm

11
Western Political Science Association
CALL FOR PAPERS: Western Political Science Association Annual Meeting
http://www.csus.edu/org/wpsa/mtgs.stm

29 - 30
International Studies Association
Annual Meeting of the International Studies Association-West, Las Vegas, NV
http://www.apsanet.org/content_22064.cfm

October 2006

19 - 20
Pacific Northwest Political Science Association
Pacific Northwest Political Science Association, Bend, Oregon
https://www.apsanet.org/content_28602.cfm

November 2006

3 - 4
International Studies Association
Annual Meeting of the International Studies Assn-Midwest
http://www.apsanet.org/content_27471.cfm

9 - 11
Northeastern Political Science Association
Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Political Science Association, Boston, MA
http://www.apsanet.org/content_13771.cfm

SPRING 2007 Conferences

January 2007

4-6
Southern Political Science Association
SPSA Conference, New Orleans, LA
http://www.apsanet.org/content_28670.cfm

February 2007

28 – March 3
International Studies Association
Annual Meeting: The North-South Divide and International Studies, Chicago, IL
http://www.apsanet.org/content_28884.cfm

March 2007

8 - 10
Western Political Science Association
Western Political Science Association 2005 Annual Meeting-Las Vegas, NV
http://www.apsanet.org/content_30089.cfm

22-25
International Studies Association
Annual Meeting: The North-South Divide and International Studies, San Diego, CA
http://www.isanet.org/sandiego/

April 2007

12 - 15
Midwest Political Science Association
MPSA National Conference, Chicago, IL
http://www.apsanet.org/content_30174.cfm
IMPORTANT GRADUATE WEB ADDRESSES AND CONTACTS

Political Science Department Home Page

http://web.arizona.edu/~polisci/index.html

Graduate Coordinator’s Website

http://www.u.arizona.edu/~vhealey/

Director of Graduate Studies Website

http://www.u.arizona.edu/~llanger/

Graduate College Home Page

http://grad.admin.arizona.edu

University of Arizona Home Page

http://www.arizona.edu/

PLEASE BOOKMARK THESE IMPORTANT SITES

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Phone #: 621-8983

Victoria Healey, Graduate Coordinator  E-Mail: vhealey@email.arizona.edu
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