

Fall 2017

Fall 2017 - HIPS Newsletter

Department of History and Political Science

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NSUWorks Citation

Department of History and Political Science, "Fall 2017 - HIPS Newsletter" (2017). *Department of History and Political Science Newsletter*. 5.

https://nsuworks.nova.edu/cahss_hips_newsletter/5

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Newsletter – Fall 2017

A Message from the Chair



“The best laid plans of mice and men often go awry.”—Robert Burns

Greetings,

The fall semester reminded me of how prepared we have to be for interruptions to our nicely organized schedules. In addition to affecting the lives of department students, staff, and faculty, Hurricane Irma disrupted the fall academic calendar and caused all of us to reorganize our semester. It can be a challenge when our plans don't work out as intended, but I think our own state of peace and calm can help determine if we experience time calmly or in a mad rush.

Despite a little bit of chaos, I'd like to welcome all the students who joined the department this academic year as well as our new department faculty member, Prof. Ransford Edwards (see this newsletter for more on Prof. Edwards), and our new staff member, Marcelle Turner-Dorvilier, Academic Program Coordinator for the M.S. in National Security Affairs and International Relations.

If you are new to the department, please consider joining one of our many amazing student organizations, including the Undergraduate-Graduate Leadership Council; the Mock Trial Team; the Nova International Relations Association (NIRA); Model United Nations Team; and Phi Alpha Delta, pre-law fraternity.

Fortunately for us, a new organization has joined the DHPS family, and we are now home to Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society! Special thanks to political science student Tal Lubarsky for leading the charge to begin a chapter at NSU, and to Prof. Ransford Edwards for signing on as faculty advisor.

As we begin a new year, I wish for all of us a productive semester.

For everyone who is new, here are the degree programs housed in the department:

Bachelor of Arts (B.A.):

History
International Studies
Philosophy
Political Science

Bachelor of Science (B.S.):

Legal Studies

Master of Science (M.S.):

National Security Affairs

Best,

Andrea Shaw Nevins, Ph.D., M.F.A.

Professor, Chair

Department of History and Political Science, Parker #330

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Scholarships, Internships & Competitions

Stolzenberg-Doan Study Abroad Scholarships ([Learn More](#))

This scholarship supports students who wish to study abroad.

USAID Donald M. Payne International Development Fellowship Program 2017 ([Learn More](#))

The Payne Fellowship Program provides benefits of up to \$94,000 over two years toward a two-year master's degree, arranges internships in Washington D.C. and at USAID missions overseas, and provides professional development and support activities leading to employment in USAID. Fellows may use the fellowship to attend a two-year master's program in a U.S. institution to study an area of relevance to the USAID Foreign Service, including international relations, public policy, agriculture, environmental sciences, health, business administration, economics, or urban planning at a graduate or professional school approved by the Payne Program. At the end of the two-year fellowship, Fellows enter the USAID Foreign Service. The Payne Fellowship encourages the application of members of minority groups who have historically been underrepresented in international development careers and those with financial need. Applicants must be college seniors or graduates looking to start graduate school in the fall of the year they apply, have GPAs of at least 3.2 and be U.S. citizens. The program welcomes applications from those with any undergraduate major.

Student Engagement

Mock Trial

Dr. Gary Gershman, Ph.D.

During the weekend of October 20th, the Mock Trial Team hit the road and traveled to Tampa, FL where the team attended the USF Matador Invitational.



This opportunity gave the team a chance to tune up for regional competitions in Florida.

Excitingly, the team, consisted of 11 rookies, plus a returning student. The team went up against USF and UF in a one-day competition. This year's scenario was a criminal trial – dealing with the crime of attempted murder.

The students on the team had the opportunity to act as lawyers (both defense and prosecution in different trials), witnesses, and everything from a telecommunications expert to a 13-year-old girl.

The team, unfortunately, did not garner any awards. However, three of the team's rookies received accolades from the judges. One of these rookie students was Tal Lubarsky, who thought she wouldn't be able to do it because she was so nervous. Despite her nervousness, Tal ended up being one of the shining stars of the team.

It was a fantastic experience for the students. They had a great time and are looking forward to the next competition.

Not all participating students were DHPS majors. The Team consisted of: Vivien Nmatko; Kaitlyn Castro; Julie Jaquays; Josie Cuoco; Riley Houlihan; Melanie Chapilliquen; Tal Lubarsky; Anum Sameer; Valentina Rodriguez; Gina Chavez; and David Arias.

The Department of History and Political Science, along with Nova Southeastern University, is proud of these dedicated students and congratulate them on a job well done.

We expect to increase the number of members and take two teams to do battle in Orlando in February. Hopefully, with College and University support the organization can expand the number of competitions attended, and make a name for NSU around the country.

Undergraduate Model United Nations

By G. Nelson Bass III, J.D., Ph.D.



During the weekend of October 20th, just like Mock Trial, the [Nova International Relations Association's](#) (NIRA) represented our University at the [12th Annual Florida Model United Nations Conference](#) (FMUN). On Friday, October 20th NIRA took nine undergraduate students by van to Gainesville to represent Cuba, Brazil, Peru, Bolivia, and Nepal in the General Assembly, Security Council, UNICEF, and ECOSOC.

Several of these students are DHPS majors, but many are not. If any of these individuals are in your classes, or if you see them around, please congratulate them on a

fantastic job. On behalf of the Department of History and Political Science and Nova Southeastern, we commend our team on a job well done. Even though our team did not win any awards this year, the team was fantastic as representatives of their respective countries as well as NSU.



Everyone had a great time, which is really what these competitions are all about. The team even got to visit a pumpkin patch (and participate in the creation of a pumpkin carving contest) as well as a strictly high-culture visit to Gatorama

The team members that represented NSU and NIRA (six of which were first time Model UN'ers) were: Celina Mahabir – NIRA VP; Joshua Hallinger – NIRA Treasurer; Esperanza Bautista-Ulerio; Jack Lee; Lekha Mutyala; Varsha Gopaulchan; Emily Gilman; Jerry Ennolikara; and Nicole Caputi.

High School Model UN

By G. Nelson Bass III, J.D., Ph.D.



On Friday, November 3rd, the 5th Annual Model UN High School Conference was held. It was a great day, as we welcomed approximately 110 local high school students to campus representing five different local area schools: Pine Crest, University School, Cooper City High, Archimedean Academy, and Oxbridge Academy.

Our own [NIRA team](#) put the entire thing together, with an extra special nod to Joshua Hallinger and Celina Mahabir who wrote the excellent background guides and chaired the

Security Council and General Assembly. These students put in a great amount of work and effort in to hosting the conference. In addition, our entire team spent their day working on the conference (judging position papers, acting as pages, answering questions, leading the students to the UC for lunch etc.) This is in addition to the dozens of hours spent working on the logistics in their spare time over the past few months. Please let the NIRA members know we appreciate all their hard work. The members are as follows: Celina Mahabir - NIRA VP; Joshua Hallinger – NIRA Treasurer; Esperanza Bautista-Ulerio; Jack Lee; Lekha Mutyala; Varsha Gopaulchan; Emily Gilman; Jerry Ennolikara. We recognize these amazing and dedicated students and are proud to have them on our team.



Also, for the 3rd year in a row, one of our favorite alumni returned to help out! Desiree Kennedy (one of the founders of our NIRA team and a proud graduate of NSU) helped Joshua chair the General Assembly and was our official awards emcee for the closing ceremonies. As many of you know, Desiree has continued to be active in Model UN even while attending (and finishing) her MA and working full-time in Washington D.C. In fact, this year she will be Director General of the Southern Regional Model United Nations

Conference in Charlotte ([see her bio here](#)). We are always thrilled and blessed to see our NIRA family return to campus for events like the high school conference.

I would especially like to thank our colleagues in the Shepard Broad College of Law, including Dean Garon and Nicole Rodriguez who for the second straight year generously welcomed us and allowed us to use their facilities. Hosting an MUN conference of this size is no easy undertaking, but Nicole and Dean Garon were extremely flexible and generous in allocating us space and the entire team appreciates their support.



Our Model UN High School Conference is an excellent opportunity for us to show off our campus while engaging with our community, and I really appreciate all of the support from each of you.

Thanks again, and we are looking to an even better 6th Annual conference next year!

Course Showcase for Winter 2017

LGST 4410 International Law

This course is designed to provide students with an introduction to the basic legal principles that govern relations between nations. Students explore state recognition and its consequences, jurisdiction, human rights, UN Resolutions, as well as the sources of law, treaties and customs. Students will also gain experience with the law of the sea and disputes between nations before the International Court of Justice. This is sure to be an interesting learning experience. Launch into an adventure with International Law.

Important Links for Students

[Financial Aid](#)
[Student Affairs](#)
[Undergraduate Advising Center](#)
[Undergraduate Tutoring Services](#)
[Undergraduate Testing Services](#)

This class is taught every winter. The prerequisites are as follows: one LGST course; and COMP 2000, 2010, or 2020.

After attending this informative course, students should be able to identify when treaty and customary rules apply in international as well as American courts. They will be able to identify critical clauses that relate to ratification, accession, renunciation and reservation.

Teaching this introductory course in international law is Professor Stephen Levitt. Professor Levitt has taught International law at NSU for more than twenty-five years and over these years he has put together a unique set of materials. Students read many classic and historic cases from the field including the North Sea case, the Lotus case and the Frank Cook case. Due to the engaging materials and Levitt's animated teaching style, many students find this course a highlight of their undergraduate academic careers.

News and New Developments

'Green Hills, White Houses'

The County of Kilkenny was well-represented at D.C. event

Saturday September 30, 2017

A day-long celebration of Irish-connections with Washington D.C. focused on the contribution of the Callan-born architect, James Hoban, who designed the White House. The events also featured a number of other Kilkenny county connections. Organized by the James Hoban Societies of the US and Ireland, the proceedings were opened by Waterford-born Dan Mulhall, the incoming Ambassador of Ireland to the United States and a well-known promoter of Irish history and literature.

[Ambassador Mulhall](#) was introduced by Callan-based solicitor Laurie Grace, the chairman of the Irish James Hoban Society, who was accompanied by his daughter Elizabeth. Also in attendance was Brennan Blair and her son Jack, representing the Greef/Brennan family. Sponsorship was also provided by Brenock Inc., a software company based in Miami and headed by Manus Walsh, who (like James Hoban) is a native of Desart in County Kilkenny.

The speakers included David Kilroy, son of Callan-born Michael Kilroy, who is an Assistant Professor of History at Nova Southeastern University in Florida and has a special interest in U.S. Presidential visits to Ireland. Also speaking were architect Travis Price of the Catholic University of America, whose Spirit of Place Program was responsible for the James Hoban Memorial at Desart, and Kathie Wycoff, whose great-great-grandfather, White House doorman Martin Renehan, was a native of Kilkenny City.

The DC event, under the title 'Green Hills, White Houses', will be available on video in the coming weeks, with details to be posted on www.greenhillswitehouses.org



Left to Right: Brennan Blair, Jack Blair, Ambassador Daniel Mulhall, Elizabeth Grace, Laurie Grace and David Kilroy.

Editor's Note: Take a look at the following website concerning County Kilkenny in the Republic of Ireland for more information: <http://www.visitkilkenny.ie/>

The academic program, including more information about Dr. Kilroy's presentation, may be found at the following web address: <https://networks.h-net.org/node/28441/discussions/196474/celebrating-irish-connection-washington-saturday-september-30-2017>

Department of History and Political Science Book Drive



On Wednesday, November 15th the Department of History and Political Science had its first book fair in front of the Parker Building. The department would like to recognize and thank all those who made this event successful. Chris Dallegrande (work study assistant) coordinated the book fair with the help of Dotty Hayes Di-Pol who provided support and guidance during the event. The department would also like to thank Gianpaolo Stasi, and James Welch (DHPS Graduate Assistants) and Alejandro Ochoa (newest student work study assistant) who packed and sorted 14 boxes of books and tabled

the event. A special thanks goes out to faculty who took the time to select and donate the books.

The DHPS book fair was marked as a monumental success! Out of 14 boxes of books that were collected, only 2 remain. Chris reported that a significant number of students were selecting stacks of books for leisure reading. This event also gave the department the opportunity to distribute some promotional DHPS materials highlighting our student organizations. On behalf of our department, thanks again to everyone who made this book fair a success.

Have You Seen Any New Faces



Gianpaolo Stasi

Hello, my name is Gianpaolo Stasi, but Gian works for brevity. I am a new Graduate Assistant for the Department of History and Political Science. I did my undergraduate degree in Psychology at Nova Southeastern University. I am currently pursuing my Master's degree in College Student Affairs (CSA) at Nova. I am a first-year graduate student and I look forward to being able to work in a university setting to help students get acquainted with their school. I also like making posters and flyers as well as editing movies. I have been editing films and working on computers for almost 20 years now, so it has grown to be a lifelong hobby of mine. I look forward to being able to meet everyone in my department and being able to help anyone as much as I can.

Marcelle Turner-Dorvilier

Marcelle Turner-Dorvilier began her career at NSU as academic advisor in 2002 and has since worked at three other colleges in similar roles before returning to NSU. She enjoys working with each student to find that unique balance of challenge, support, and motivation they need to succeed throughout their time in college. In addition to advising and program management, Mrs. Turner-Dorvilier is an adjunct instructor of Communication at Broward College.



Alejandro Ochoa

My name is Alejandro Ochoa, and my major is Computer Science. I was born on December 14, 1999, meaning I'm still 17 and a college freshman. I was born in Cuba, and moved to Florida about 5 years ago. One interesting fact about me is that I learned English in the first six months I was here. I like to read fantasy novels like Game of Thrones, and Harry Potter, etc. I want to become a Software Engineer when I graduate. I am currently working as an Administrative Assistant for the DHPS.

Alumni News

Roy J. Smith IV



“An attorney must wear two hats: one of the champion and one of the counselor.”

Roy J. Smith IV graduated from Nova Southeastern University in 1997. He received his B.S. in Legal studies and graduated with highest honors. While at Nova, Roy was the President of Alpha Chi (AX) Honor Society, and was a recipient of the Outstanding Achievement Award in Liberal Arts. Upon graduating from Nova, Roy moved on to the University of Florida College of Law. He graduated with honors in the year 2000 obtaining his Juris Doctorate degree.

During his time at University of Florida, Roy was Senior Articles Editor and Chief Judicial Panelist of the Florida Law Review. He won the prestigious Gertrude Brick Outstanding Board Member Award.

Today, Roy is a member of the Smith Family Law Firm and practices in the arenas of family law, auto accident law and mediation. The firm, located in Altamonte Springs, Florida is a husband and wife team of AV-rated lawyers Roy has plenty of experience; he has been practicing for over seventeen years. Roy Smith has also presented lectures to attorneys, law students and consumers in the state of Florida. He has three daughters and is a proud Florida Gator. Roy is a parishioner of St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church.

When Professor Levitt spoke to Roy Smith, Roy emphasized that he is very proud of his Legal Studies degree from NSU. Also he wanted to tell current students in the program that he would be pleased to discuss with them the University of Florida Law School, if they are interesting in attending that institution, or any other issue related to becoming a lawyer in Florida.

Student – Faculty Innovations



Tal Lubarsky

tl832@mynsu.nova.edu

Tal is a Junior at Nova Southeastern University who is working towards a major in Political Science and International Studies. Recently she took the initiative to form a Political Science Honor Society with the help of Dr. Edwards.

Tal comments that starting this honor society has been “swift, but extremely rewarding.” She reached out to her professors for advisory support. She got the backing she needed to continue the process. On her own, Tal researched the application process and whether or not Nova qualified. With the help of Dr. Edwards, she was able to complete the application and was able to get it approved. It was at that point that Nova received an official chapter name.

Tal was driven to take ownership of this project as a political science student. Tal came to realize that there were no honor societies on campus to which she felt she “belonged.” Due to a conflict of concentration (Law or National Security) she did not feel that the Law honor society was for her. She did research to see if she could create an honor society where she, and others in her position, could belong. Through her search she found Pi Sigma Alpha, the national political science honor society. She immediately knew that she would need to create a chapter in order to be involved. It is Tal’s hope that with the creation of this honor society on Nova’s campus other students who share her feelings will have an opportunity to participate in this honor society or become motivated to create their own.

This of course was not without its challenges, one of the biggest being student involvement. Political Science is a smaller major at Nova Southeastern University and it does not “receive much recognition.”

Many students with a political science major are pursuing a career in law, and have chosen to become members of the law honor society. Pi Sigma Alpha is meant specifically for students with a political science major, and therefore it is slightly challenging to find many qualifying students who are interested in participating. However, Tal believes that once the members establish themselves on campus, it will be much easier to attract students.

In conclusion Tal labels the experience as being “fantastic.” She is excited to have established a chapter on campus and knows that it will be a way for other political science students to get involved.

Let Me Introduce Myself

Faculty

[Ransford F. Edwards, Jr., Ph.D.](#)



Dr. Ransford Edwards is the newest Assistant Professor in the Department of History and Political Science. Edwards earned his Ph.D. in Political Science from Florida International University in 2016. He received an M.S. in Political Science from Florida State, and a B.A. in Political Science from Florida Atlantic University.

Disaster politics, particularly disaster capitalism, is the subject of Ransford's research. His focus is on the social and economic justice issues that arise after events such as earthquakes, hurricanes and floods. His area of geographic concern extends to the Caribbean and Latin America. Some of the courses Dr. Edwards would love to teach are research methods, political economy, and political film and fiction. In the meantime, Dr. Edwards teaches State and Local Government, Introduction to Political Science as well as graduate courses in the National Security Affairs and International Relations program.

People don't know this, but Dr. Edwards trained to be a fire fighter and he even completed the first part of the course. Later, he had a change of heart and took some courses in biology, anatomy and chemistry. Ultimately, he took an international relations course with Dr. Charles Windler and fell in love with political science. This became his passion and Ransford has taught courses in this subject at FAU, FSU, and FIU.

Before walking along the hallowed halls of NSU, Dr. Edwards worked as a cashier, construction worker, auto detailer, and a math teacher. He very much enjoys soccer.



