

Thought for the week: "Action is easy; thought is hard."

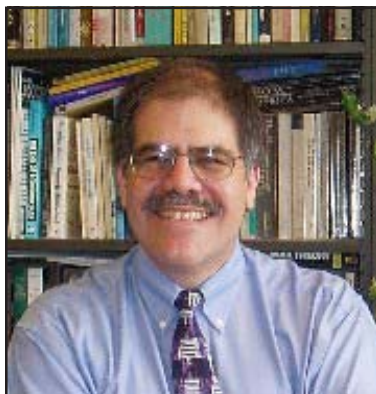
-- German author Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

The Department Wishes Everyone Good Luck on their Finals, Congratulations to all the Graduating Seniors, and Best Wishes for a Happy Summer to All.

Articles & Achievements

Jeremy Pressman's article, "Mediation, Domestic Politics, and the Israeli-Syrian negotiations, 1991-2000," will be published in *Security Studies*. He also recently discussed al-Qaeda, Britain, terrorism, and Hobbes (albeit indirectly) on the Dan Lovallo radio show on WDRC.

Ernie Zirakzadeh was named Vice President of the Connecticut Academy of Arts and Sciences. He also attended the Midwestern Political Science Associate Meeting and delivered a paper, "When Nationalists Are Not



Ernie Zirakzadeh

Separatists: Discarding and Recovering Academic Theories While Doing Fieldwork in the Basque Region of Spain."

Dissertation Fellowships Available

The Office of the Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Education has made funding available to support a limited number of Doctoral Dissertation Fellowships for the Summer and/or Fall of 2007. The amount of the fellowship is \$2,000. Fellowships will be awarded competitively, which will involve the rank ordering of applicants by faculty in various program areas if the number of eligible applicants exceeds the number of available fellowships.

Eligibility requirements include: certification that the applicant's total personal income will not exceed \$32,000 for the twelve months preceding the end date of the fellowship (end of Fall 2007 term); documented satisfactory completion of the General Examination (before 5/25/07 at

4:00 PM); and full approval of the Dissertation Proposal (prior to 5/25/07 at 4:00 PM) by the Executive Committee of the Graduate Faculty Council (including full and current IRB or IACUC approval for the use of any human and/or animal subjects involved in the research). In addition, a fellowship recipient may not defend his or her dissertation prior to 8/24/07. Doctoral candidates may only receive the fellowship once.

The application is available online at www.grad.uconn.edu. Applications are due by **4:00 PM** on **May 25, 2007**. They should be dropped off at the graduate school or mailed to Thomas B. Peters, Program Director, Graduate School, U-1006, Storrs, CT 06269-1006.

Save the Date

The Department is hosting a party in honor of Betty Hanson on **Friday, May 11, 2007** from **3 - 5 PM** at the UConn Alumni Room. Please RSVP to Jennifer Fontanella by Friday, May 4, 2007.

Undergrad Elected to Board of Trustees

Ross Gionfriddo, a fourth semester POLS student, has been elected as the undergraduate representative to the Board of Trustees.

CLAS Honors POLS Undergraduate

Meghann LaFountain has been chosen by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) for one of three Outstanding Senior Women Awards. Congratulations to Meghann, and thanks to **Virginia Hettinger** and **Jennifer Sterling-Folker** for their help in nominating Meghann for this well deserved honor.

Department Hosts Farewell Reception

The Department invites all graduating seniors and their families to a farewell reception on Commencement Day. The event is Sunday, **May 6, 2007** from **11 AM to 1 PM** in the **UConn Foundation Building**.

Dept Sponsors Undergrad to Foreign Affairs Conference

Each year the Department of Political Science selects a student representative to attend the United States Naval Academy Foreign Affairs Conference (NAFAC) which was held this year in Annapolis, Maryland, in April. NAFAC brings together outstanding students from around the world to discuss major issues and formulate proposals for foreign policy. This year's theme was "Asia at the Crossroads." To prepare for the conference, student delegates must write papers related to their chosen roundtables. At the conference, delegates attend roundtable and panel discussions, hear a variety of guest speakers, and socialize with naval academy cadets and other student delegates during evening mixers, dinners, and a formal banquet.

The selection of a student representative is based on a record of outstanding academic achievement and demonstrated interest in and commitment to international relations (IR). This year's student representative was **John Super**, and he attended this



John Super

year's NAFAC on April 9-13. John is an International Relations major (in the Individualized Major program) who has focused his studies on the Middle East and plans to attend graduate school for a joint MBA and MA in IR degree after he graduates in May 2008. He would like to work in international business, with a particular focus on the energy industry. He is a certified member of CERT (Community Emergency Response Team), which is based in DC and trains civilians to assist police, firemen, and other emergency personnel in overwhelming emergency situations.

John was a delegate on the "Energy-Security: Competition Between India, China and Japan"

roundtable, and his paper focused on energy trends in India and China from 1990 on. Other roundtable topics included Terrorism in Southeast Asia, Democracy in Asia, and the North Korean Nuclear Threat. This year's guest speakers included former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, the Commander of the US Pacific Fleet, Admiral Gary Roughead, and the Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, Thomas Christensen. He notes that the conference "far exceeded any of my expectations. Everyone I met was interesting and fascinating, and I met people from at least 10 different countries including Holland, Poland, Sweden, Germany, Australia, and Afghanistan." On the energy roundtable, "we talked about what the future energy competition in Asia might lead to, the potential for confrontations and cooperation, the types of energy that might be needed, and how China's energy needs from the Middle East will affect US-China relations."

Maxwell School Announces Post-Doctoral Fellowship

The Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs is announcing the inaugural Middle East Studies Program Post-Doctoral Fellowship competition. The fellowship will support a recent Ph.D. working on a topic related to democratization in the Middle East. The fellowship period includes one academic year, August 15 - May 15, plus one summer month May 15 - June 15, 2008 (with strong potential to

extend a second year). The fellow will receive a stipend of \$27,800 plus fringe benefits that provide health benefits through August 15, 2008. The fellowship is not restricted based on discipline.

Applicants must have completed a Ph.D. between January 1, 2003 and July 1, 2007 from an accredited university in the United States, Europe, or the Middle East and preferably have competence in Arabic. The

fellowship requires residence at Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York from August 2007 - June 2008. The fellow will be given library privileges at Syracuse University and office space within the Maxwell School.

For more information, including application details, visit the Moynihan Institute of Global Affairs online at www.maxwell.syr.edu/moynihan.