

Thought for the week: "I believe in the old vaudeville maxim: Perfect your act and then cut two minutes."
-- business executive Dennis Barden

Articles & Achievements

Lyle Scruggs published an article, "The Generosity of Social Insurance, 1971–2002," in the *Oxford Review of Economic Policy*. International comparisons of national social policy rely overwhelmingly on program spending ratios. However, there are widespread problems with this type of data as an indicator of trends in societies' commitments to social protection. Lyle's paper suggests an alternative approach to understanding social commitments and introduces a new international data set of social insurance programs that is comprised



Professor Lyle Scruggs

of important characteristics of three types of public insurance: unemployment, sick pay, and public pensions. The data are available annually from the 1970s for 18 OECD countries. Looking

more closely at trends in two program characteristics, income replacement rates and program coverage, Lyle developed an indicator of expected benefits. According to this indicator, there is considerably more evidence of welfare state retrenchment in recent years than most analyses of public spending have suggested.

Wes Renfro presented a paper, "My Enemy's Enemy: Poliheuristics and Israeli Foreign Policy vis- -vis Iran in the 1980s," at the International Studies Association Southern Conference on October 21, 2006.

CT General Assembly Seeks Two Graduate Students for Paid Fellowships

The Connecticut General Assembly, Office of Legislature Research (OLR) seeks two qualified graduate students as legislative fellows to help OLR staff conduct policy and legal research from January 3, 2007 to June 6, 2007. OLR is the Connecticut General Assembly's nonpartisan research arm.

Interested students should possess excellent writing and analytic skills and must have completed at least one year toward a graduate degree in law, public administration, government, public policy, political science, criminal justice, or a related field. Selected students will be required to work 30 hours per week for a stipend of

\$15.45 per hour. Qualified students must submit resumes and cover letter by **October 27**, 2006. The application and supporting materials should be sent to:

Office of Legislative Research
Room 5300
Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106
Fax: (860) 240-8881
Telephone: (860) 240-8400

More information about the OLR and the fellows program is available online at www.cga.ct.gov/olr. Additional questions or queries should be sent to Veronica Rose via email to Veronica.Rose@cga.ct.gov.

WNPR Internships Available

Students interested in internships with WNPR (radio) may contact Av Harris at aharris@wnpr.org. Harris is WNPR's capitol reporter and recently spoke at UConn.

Submission Guide

Submissions for publication in *Monday Morning* should be placed in the submission box in Monteith Hall, Room 137, or can be submitted by email to Wes Renfro at wesley.renfro@uconn.edu. Please feel free to submit any suggestions or comments. If you would like to submit publications, presentations, invited talks, etc. for *Monday Morning*, please include an abstract of your work so it may be published.

Alumnus Named “Rising Star” by Legal Publication

Scott M. Holcomb (B.A. 1994) was featured in the special *Rising Stars* edition of *Georgia Super Lawyers 2006*. *Rising Stars* names the top young lawyers in Georgia as chosen by *Georgia Super Lawyers* and through independent research. All Georgia Rising Stars are 40 or younger or have been in practice for 10 years or less. Only 2.5 percent of Georgia attorneys are named Rising Stars. *Georgia Rising Stars*, representing more than 60 practice areas, is published annually in the May issue of *Georgia Super Lawyers — Rising Stars Edition*, which is mailed to more than 29,500 Georgia attorneys, and in a special advertising section in *Atlanta Magazine*, which reaches more than 269,500 readers.

After completing his studies at UConn, Scott earned a J.D. from the West Virginia University College of Law in 1997. Scott currently works Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan in Atlanta. Holcomb practices in the areas of securities litigation and enforcement. Prior to joining the firm in 2004, he was a Captain in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General’s Corps, where

he served as a military prosecutor, labor counselor, and international law attorney. As an international law attorney, Scott participated in Operation Joint Forge in Bosnia, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Iraqi Freedom. He worked on numerous high-profile issues, including the legal status of detainees, procedures for military tribunals, rules of engagement, and targeting selections.



Scott Holcomb was featured in the recent *Rising Stars* edition of *Georgia Super Lawyers*.

Scott earned numerous awards and decorations during his twelve years of military service. He also received the Outstanding Young Alumni Award for 2003 from the University of Connecticut Alumni Association. Scott came to UConn in 2004 to discuss his experiences



Scott (right) with former presidential candidate General Wesley Clark (left).

in Iraq. In 2005, he traveled to Europe as an American Marshall Memorial Fellow, where he met with policy makers in Brussels, Copenhagen, Barcelona, Bucharest, and Paris.

In 2006, Scott sought the Democratic nomination for Georgia Secretary State. Max Cleland, former U.S. Senator and Holcomb supporter, praised Scott saying, “I was impressed with Scott’s determination to contribute something after he’d already made a magnificent contribution with his military service.” He lost the primary in July and has returned to work at Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan.

Information from the May 2006 Rising Stars issue of Georgia Super Lawyers 2006 was used in this story.

2006-2007 Political Science Colloquia Calendar			
Day/Date	Time	Location	Speaker (affiliation), Title [Outside Event Sponsor, if applicable]
Wednesday, March 21	12:00 PM	Class of '47 Room, Babbidge Library	Joanne Bauer (former Director of Studies at the Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs), TBD [co-sponsored with Human Rights Institute]
Thursday, April 5	12:30 PM	TBD	Morris Fiorina (Stanford University), TBD

Schedule is tentative. All information subject to change. For more information, please contact Professor Morrell at michael.morrell@uconn.edu.