



Celebrating Two Distinguished Richards Symposium Honouring Simeon



Richard Simeon was honoured by a two-day workshop and a gala dinner in the Great Hall of Hart House this past September. Friends and scholars, all of them admiring of everything that Richard had done over a long career, gathered from across Canada and Europe to do what he has always most liked doing – exchange ideas on the “Global Promise of Federalism.”

The shared connection to Richard of those who presented and those who gathered for dinner reflected the breadth and extent of his contribution to the scholarship on and practice of federalism. At the gala, Martin Papil-

lon, a Ph.D. alumnus of the department, now at the University of Ottawa, was one of several speakers who spoke warmly of Richard’s impact on him and the field. In response to these and other stories, Richard responded with characteristic warmth and enthusiasm.

In 1972, Richard’s Ph.D. dissertation (at Yale) became a book (*Federal-Provincial Diplomacy*) that was to have lasting influence in the field within and beyond this country. He taught at Queen’s for some time, serving as director of the Institute of Intergovernmental Relations and then of the School of Public Administration. He joined the U of T in 1991, with links to Law as well as the department. He has been a visitor at Harvard, Essex, Cape Town, and UBC. In 2004, he was named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

He has advised governments, royal commissions, and a vast array of political participants. He is a member of the Advisory committee of the Club de Madrid, an international grouping of former heads of state and government dedicated to democratic transition.

From an early period, Richard believed that Canada’s experiences provided lessons for other countries. Starting in 1995 he travelled to South Africa, at an extraordinary time of democratic transition. He has also travelled to Sudan and Iraq, hoping that federal solutions might contribute to reducing conflict.

Sandbrook’s Huge 41-year Footprint

No one really believes that Richard Sandbrook has “retired.” He is still immensely productive, and he looks too young.

Since joining the department of Political Economy in 1970, he has authored/co-authored, or edited 13 books and written over 50 articles. Several books have been reprinted and translated into other languages, and they are respected and cited to an extraordinary extent. In 1984, at a comparatively young age, he was elected a fellow of the Royal Society of Canada.

As Atul Kohli (Princeton) says, “he is among the very best scholars of African and comparative political development in the world. His books have ranged far and wide: from African political economy to globalization to social democracy and now to rethinking the relevance of Polanyi to a more humanistic approach to development. He has made a mark in all of these areas. . .



Richard with his granddaughter Isabella

In This Issue

| | |
|--|---|
| New Faces | 2 |
| Sal Cusimano’s Remarkable Leadership | 3 |
| Undergraduate Developments | 4 |
| Faculty Grants | 5 |
| PSAAEvent | 6 |
| Rob Vipond Launches Leadership Lunches | 7 |

continued on page 2

continued on page 6

New Faces

Vsevolod (Seva) Gunitskiy



joined the Department in 2011, cross-appointed with Peace and Conflict Studies. His research focuses on how global power shifts are shaped by the spread

and retreat of communist, fascist, and democratic domestic regimes. His dissertation (at Columbia) was supervised by Jack Snyder and Kenneth Walz, and he is now working on his first book: *Democracy and the Decline of Great Powers*. Seva was born in Russia and moved to New York City when he was 11. He has now moved to Canada with a wry set of comparative observations. "I miss being able to buy lumber and potting soil on Amazon.com." Canadians are also inefficient spellers: "words like 'color' become 20 percent longer." That said, he likes getting around his new city on a bicycle, and he finds Torontonians to be generally friendlier than his countrymen from New York City. Here, he's noticed, "accidental eye contact is not considered an act of aggression." If he finds himself a tuque for the winter, Seva will get used to Canada.



Daniel Lee

is based at UTSc, and he is the newest addition to the political theory contingent. Daniel's academic trajectory began in his undergraduate

years at Columbia, at a time when the dominance of Rawlsian liberalism over political and legal theory was beginning to wane. There, he encountered several influential theorists, most notably David Armitage, who turned Daniel to the historical study of political ideas. While still an undergraduate, he also met his eventual dissertation supervisor, Philip Petit (based at Princeton). From New

York to Oxford and then to Princeton, Daniel's research shifted toward Roman Law. "My original interest actually was in Hegel's political and moral philosophy, but my research eventually moved to understand how Roman law framed the background, to show that ideas eventually crafted by Kant, Rousseau, and Hegel had their origins in this early modern period." Next year, his graduate teaching on the St. George campus will feature a new course (also listed as a 4th year course) on sovereignty. Outside his university life, Daniel is an aficionado of early music, and plays the cello.



William (Bill) Hurst

joined the department this year, after four years at the University of Texas at Austin, a post-doc at Oxford, and before that a Ph.D.

at Berkeley. Bill is a specialist in "contentious politics" in China and Southeast Asia, particularly Indonesia. His book, *The Chinese Worker after Socialism*, was published by Cambridge in 2009, and more recently he has been in the field exploring courts and other legal institutions in China and Indonesia. Bill generally enjoys large cities, he says that it is actually a rather small thing that has impressed him most about Toronto. "Whenever I ride the subway or streetcar with my two kids, people routinely give up their seats for them," he's observed. Bill is based at UTSc, and associated with the Centre for Southeast Asian Studies at Munk.

Simeon, continued from page 1

As he puts it, "the choice is to face a self-fulfilling prophecy of failure or make some small attempt to turn things around, and hopefully help a few people along the way."

To the very core of his being, Simeon is an educator. He has worked with and co-published with many doctoral students. In the 1990s he developed a new 1st-year

Krisztina Harmath



joined us as department manager (St. George campus) this summer, bringing ten years of central and divisional UofT experience. Krisztina was first educated

in international business in Budapest, and as a ski instructor on the slopes of the Alps and Carpathian Mountains. Stepping out from behind the Iron Curtain she put her adaptation skills to the test as an AIESEC intern in Merida, Mexico. Adding a Ryerson certificate program in business computer applications and experience in "SAP" Financials implementation prepared her for a move to the university, where she has assumed business managerial and advisory roles prior to this new challenge – "a great opportunity" at Political Science.

VERY New Faces

We've had a PS baby boom, including 2 sets of twins. Among faculty and staff:

Felix, son of Christian Breunig
Peter Craig, son of Courtney Jung
Jarrett, son of Wil Kurth
Kamraan Victor & Idris Siraj, sons of Lucan Way

Additions to Ph.D. student families:

Flora, daughter of Elinor Bray Collins
Victoria, daughter of Kimberly Carter
Nola, daughter of David Gordon
Aleksandar and Stefan, sons of Olga Kesarchuk & Nicola Milicic

And at press time:

Stefan, son of Adrian Atanasescu

undergraduate course, Canada in Comparative Perspective, which he then piloted through many years.

Because Richard has formally retired doesn't mean he is stopping. He is still writing; he still contributes to conferences; he continues to advise with wisdom and humility. And as was so much in evidence in September, he continues to learn from others, and listen as enthusiastically as ever.

Sal Cusimano's Remarkable Leadership

It's hard to imagine keeping up with Salvator. He is president of the Association of Political Science Students, gets startlingly good grades, plays soccer in two leagues - and he's had wide-ranging research experience.



As APSS president, he leads an executive team with an extremely ambitious agenda to engage undergraduate students. Two years ago, his first on the association's executive, he edited the Undergraduate Journal of Political Science, and this year is doing similar service for *Attaché*, the student journal in I.R – he combines interests in international relations and in peace and conflict alongside political science. Along with the APSS team, he has also organized major conferences on topics ranging from the myths of Canadian identity to Middle East transformation.

Also in second year, he worked with Courtney Jung on a project that explored the impact of constitutional

Dependent America.

In an independent study course with Vera Achvarina, he focussed on child soldiers. After securing grant support, he and student colleague Sima Atri surveyed hundreds of people in Uganda - a country deeply troubled by years of violence. Their research aimed at confronting the challenges in securing justice where the involvement of children in conflict has been so widespread. This November they travelled to New York to present findings to UNICEF and UN officials.

Apart from those instructors he has worked with directly, several others have made their mark: Thomas Tiekou, Emanuel Adler, Ramin Jahanbegloo, Antoinette Handley. It is soon obvious that he

guarantees of social and economic rights. The following year, he assisted Stephen Clarkson in preparing his new book

meets faculty members easily, and has recognized the value of doing just that.

"I was always grateful that I had the opportunity to have really intellectual discussions with profs who were doing interesting things, who know everything that I don't know."

With APSS, he has worked with Rob Vipond in developing "leadership lunches" bringing together distinguished alumni and undergraduates (see p. 7). They have also launched a new initiative enabling POL 101 students to meet their profs (Kopstein and Wong) outside class, the first one (over pizza) attracting more than 60 students.

And then there is soccer, an enduring passion since childhood. That, too, is about team work, which he says is the hallmark of APSS's success in representing students, and creating opportunities for their engagement in the department and in politics.

After the end of this final year as an undergraduate, what lies ahead? Graduate work first – in the U.S., Britain, or Canada, and then perhaps work for an international NGO like the International Rescue Committee, which focuses on relief and reconstruction. Salvator wants to fight for change, and he's in a hurry.



photograph by Matthew D.H Gray

Isaiah Berlin and The Arab Spring

Michael Ignatieff (left), Prof. Ramin Jahanbegloo (right), along with moderator Prof. Mark Kingwell (centre), discuss the relevance of political philosopher Isaiah Berlin to the popular protests in the Arab world. Ignatieff, who this year is a senior fellow at Massey College, and Jahanbegloo, who in recent years has been teaching in our department, have each authored major books on Berlin. This event, held in September, was co-sponsored by the Political Science Department and PEN Canada.

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Undergraduate Developments

Enrolment in political science programs across our three campuses are similar to last year. Just under 600 students are enrolled in specialists, the numbers slightly down at St. George and significantly up at UTM. This is about twice the number of specialists across campuses in 1997-98. Majors total over 1700, up on St George and UTM. Total undergraduate enrolment is approximately 3600.

This is a year of comparative stability in terms of programs and courses. The St. George campus is facing a numbers crunch at the 4th year level, made more intense because of a new faculty-wide requirement that majors take at least a half course at that level. Antoinette Handley

and Liz Jagdeo are juggling a range of alternatives to address the challenge while still ensuring an engaging experience for senior students. There are three new fourth-year courses also serving as graduate courses – in theory (Daniel Lee's on Sovereignty), comparative (Bill Hurst's on Contentious Politics), and one crossing those two fields (Rauna Kuokkanen's on Indigenous Theory).

November is also undergraduate award season – an opportunity to recognize outstanding students. The ceremonies for handing out these awards also provide an opportunity to thank donors for their great generosity.

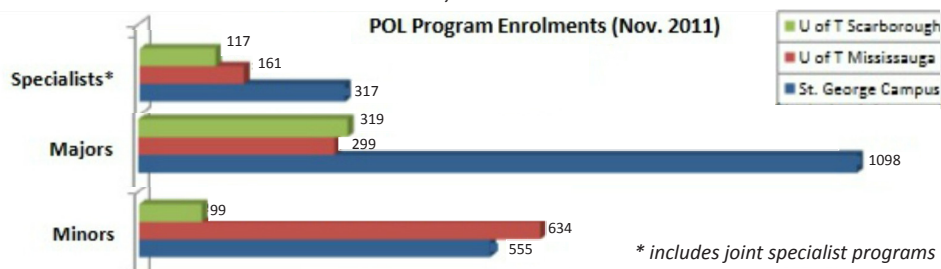
New Margaret J.E. White Scholarship Awarded

The St. George Department is delighted to introduce a new award for an outstanding student interested in Canadian politics. Brian White created this to honour his mother, both of them sharing a lifelong interest in Canadian politics. As he puts it, his mother Margaret "is probably the only person in all of Canada who can watch CPAC ten hours a day." The inaugural winner this year is Cindy Yi, now a 4th year student, majoring in POL and Ethics, Society and Law.

Teaching Awards and High Honours

The department has a long history of teaching awards at the university, campus, and faculty level. No exception this year. In November, Wendy Wong received an undergraduate teaching award from the U of T Students' Union and the Association of Part-Time Undergraduate Students. In June, at UTSc, Phil Triadafilopoulos was presented with the faculty teaching award, and Ph.D. student Caroline Hossein was presented the graduate T.A. award.

Two faculty colleagues have been recently appointed to the Royal Society of Canada: Lou Pauly and Alan Brudner (who is cross-appointed to POL from Law). They join a distinguished roster that includes professors Bashevkin, Beiner, Cameron, Magocsi, Nevitte, Roach, and Stein and among emeritus faculty, Clarkson, Cunningham, Pratt, Russell, Sandbrook, Simeon, and Tuohy.



Undergraduate Award Winners for 2010-11

St. George Campus: Overall Academic Achievement

Colleen McKeown
Wei Yang Ong
Nathan Berman
David Byun
Ashley Racine
Laura Correa Ochoa
Michael Barwick
Cindy Yi
Zachary Garcia

Suzanne and Edwin Goodman Prize
Suzanne and Edwin Goodman Prize
Jules and Elaine James Scholarship
Andrew Nigrini Sr. Memorial Scholarship
Mary Keenan Award
Alexander Mackenzie Scholarship
Monte Kwinter Award
Margaret J.E. White Scholarship
Paul L. Nathanson Scholarship

Specialist: graduating student
Specialist: graduating student
Specialist: 4th yr. student
Specialist: 2nd yr. student
Specialist: 1st yr. student
PS program: 2nd or 3rd yr. student
PS program: 2nd yr. student
PS prog Cdn politics: 3rd or 4th yr.
3rd year student

Prize winners for awards associated with individual courses: Laura Correa Ochoa and Felix Cowan (*Cdn. International Council Book Prize*), Alexandra Robertson and Christie Bates (*Ruth Robinson Leberg Book Prize*), Braden Palmer Skippen (*Brian Mulroney Prize*), Michael Maher (*Mark Adler Scholarship*), Martin Alite (*J. Michael Kyne Award*), William Schatten (*Pollara Book Prize*), and Erin Elizabeth Troy (*Rabbi Isserman Prize*)

UTSC Award

Alan Tang

Filosa Family Scholarship

2nd yr. student

UTM Awards

Hassan Ahmed
Shannon Armstrong

Peter Silcox Award
James Barros Award

Best student in Canadian Politics
Best student in International Relations

New Donation Matching Program Announced

The Provost has created a new fund that will match endowments of \$50,000 or more to support international graduate students. This reflects a priority of the department, as well as the U of T, to expand the resources to attract the brightest Ph.D. applicants from around the world. Each endowment gift of \$50,000, \$100,000, or more (by individuals or groups), will be matched as long as the budgetary allocation for this program lasts, and as long as payments

are completed by the end of 2013. If you or someone you know is interested, contact the departmental chair (david.cameron@utoronto.ca) or the Arts and Science Advancement office (leslie.mccarley@utoronto.ca).

Faculty Grants

Political Science faculty have been remarkably successful in grants competitions over the last few years. Since 2007-08, 34 applications to the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada have been submitted from across the three campuses, and 22 have been successful. That's a 65 percent success rate, compared to 34 percent nationwide in political science, and 49 percent across all academic units at the U of T. In addition to SSHRC, Ron Deibert has secured major funding from the MacArthur Foundation for his work on information warfare, and David Wolfe from the Canadian Foundation for Innovation (matched ORF funding from the Ontario government) for his ongoing research on regional clusters. Wendy

SSHRC Standard Research Grants 2008-11

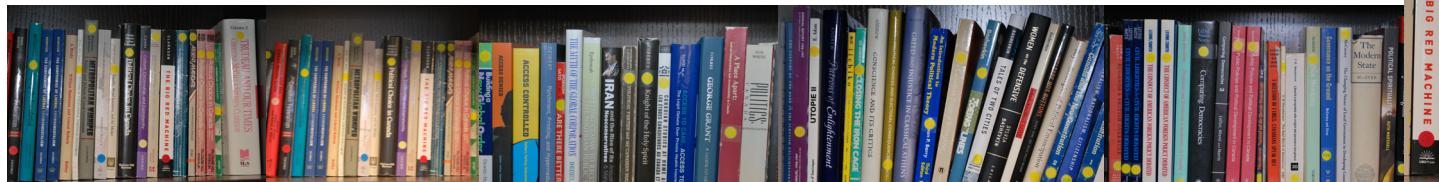
| | | |
|-----------------------|--|------|
| Balot, Ryan | <i>Courage and Its Critics in Democratic Athens</i> | 2010 |
| Bashevkin, Sylvia | <i>Women's Representation in International Politics</i> | 2010 |
| Clarkson, Stephen | <i>The North American Hegemon International Politics</i> | 2009 |
| Cochrane, Christopher | <i>Anti-Muslim Opinion in Canada</i> | 2010 |
| Deibert, Ronald | <i>Geopolitics of Cyber Warfare</i> | 2009 |
| Handley, Antoinette | <i>Business and HIV/AIDS in Africa</i> | 2008 |
| Hansen, Randall | <i>Disobeying Hitler: German Resistance After July 1914</i> | 2011 |
| Jung, Courtney | <i>Social and Economic Rights in Developing Countries</i> | 2009 |
| Kuokkanen, Rauna | <i>Gendering Indigenous Self-Determination</i> | 2010 |
| Leduc, Lawrence | <i>Multi-Level Political Participation Developing Countries</i> | 2009 |
| Loewen, Peter | <i>Behavioral Foundations of Participation and Partisanship</i> | 2009 |
| Rayside, David | <i>Faith and Party Politics in Canada</i> | 2010 |
| Schatz, Edward | <i>Soft Authoritarian Information Management in Central Asia</i> | 2010 |
| Teichman, Judith | <i>Social Welfare and Neo-Liberalism in Latin America</i> | 2011 |
| White, Graham | <i>Capacity Building in Northern</i> | 2008 |
| White, Linda | <i>Early Childhood Education Policies in Canada</i> | 2008 |
| Williams, Melissa | <i>East Asian Perspectives on Political Legitimacy</i> | 2010 |
| | <i>Indigenous Peoples and Governance *</i> | 2009 |
| Wong, Wendy | <i>How NGOs Advocate Universal Minority Rights Domestically</i> | 2011 |

* A grant under the rubric of a larger CFRI

Wong has been supported by the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, and both Lee Ann Fujii and Lynette Ong have had major Connaught grants.

For this year's round, seven SSHRC applications have been submitted by Po-

litical Science faculty members, with Research Coordinator David Wolfe and Department Manager Krisztina Harmath providing essential guidance.



Ph.D. Scholarships

The graduate program continues to attract first rate Ph.D. students, and one measure of that is their remarkable track record in winning awards. Among currently enrolled students, two hold the enormously prestigious Vanier scholarships (Paul Thomas winning his this spring, Kiran Banerjee last year). Fourteen hold "super-SSHRC" Canada Graduate Scholarships (four of them new this year - Gabriel Arsenaault, Sam Grey, Lahoma Thomas, and Stefan Ferraro). Three more hold SSHRC doctoral fellowships, and one (Daniel Schillinger) is in his second year as Connaught award holder. As you can see in the accompanying table, their research interests echo the amazing breadth that has always been a hallmark of our graduate programs.

Current Award Holders

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|-----------|
| Arsenaault, Gabriel | <i>Transformations of the Canadian Welfare State</i> | CGS |
| Banerjee, Kiran | <i>Political Exclusion and Citizenship</i> | Vanier |
| Dubois, Janique | <i>Self-government in diverse societies</i> | CGS |
| Dumouchel, Joelle | <i>Hist. change in central bank internal stabilization practices</i> | SSHRC |
| Ferraro, Stefan | <i>Public/private governance and military contracting</i> | CGS |
| Gagné, Marie | <i>The state and extractive industries in Africa and S. America</i> | CGS |
| Greaves, Wilfrid | <i>Securitization and Climate Change in the Arctic</i> | SSHRC |
| Grey, Sam | <i>Decolonization in persistent settler states</i> | CGS |
| Korycki, Kate | <i>States inventing nations through creative (dis)remembering</i> | SSHRC |
| Lachapelle, Jean | <i>Middle Eastern and North African Authoritarianism</i> | CGS |
| Laurence, Marion | <i>The concept of neutrality in peace support operations</i> | CGS |
| Mahon, Lindsay | <i>Poetry and persuasion in Plato's political education</i> | CGS |
| Millar, Heather | <i>Comparative public policy and non-state actors</i> | CGS |
| Mondou, Matthieu | <i>Biofuel policy in the U.S., Germany, and Canada</i> | CGS |
| Moosa, Hanna | <i>Water resource management and peace-building</i> | CGS |
| Paquin-Pelletier, Alexandre | <i>Civil society and accommodation in multiethnic states</i> | CGS |
| Schillinger, Daniel | <i>Classical and late-modern political thought</i> | Connaught |
| Steflja, Izabela | <i>Transitional justice and reconciliation narratives</i> | CGS |
| Thomas, Lahoma | <i>Violence in post-conflict settings</i> | CGS |
| Thomas, Paul | <i>Parliamentary democracy and MP behaviour</i> | Vanier |

On top of all this, 30 of our students won in hand (Kevin Edmonds, Conrad OGS awards for this year, three of them Koczorowski, and Jelena Popovic). beginning the Ph.D. with their awards



PSAA Event Assesses Ontario Election



From left to right - John Wright, Nelson Wiseman, Katherine Valiquette, Kerry Wicks, Bob Hepburn and Robin Sears.

For the second year in a row, the Political Science Alumni Association (PSAA) put a spotlight on a recent election, providing a treat for political junkies. This fall's Ontario election was under the microscope at an event held soon afterwards, on October 20th. Four panellists were recruited on short notice to assess what voters had done, and in particular the role of the media in the campaign, drawing in a keenly interested audience of students, alumni, and faculty.

John Wright, a pollster with Ipsos-Reid, sparked extended debate when he challenged the media's excessive reliance on polling, some of it by firms

they know to be unreliable. Robin Sears, an experienced political strategist and consultant (with Navigator) focussed instead on the record low turnout, and especially low turnout among young people. Veteran Toronto Star journalist Bob Hepburn argued that the media, and particularly the print media, went beyond just treating the election as "horse race," working hard to focus discussion on real issues. He agreed, though, that declining turnout was a disturbing and to some extent puzzling development. Prof. Nelson Wiseman dissented from other panellists in arguing that comparatively low turnout was not a sign of an unhealthy democracy. He also claimed that the use of media consultants and strategists to constantly massage the messages of parties

and their leaders turned off voters, and contributed to many not casting ballots.

The rhetorical fireworks were artfully moderated by PSAA executive members Katherine Valiquette and Kerry Wicks. They were also key players in putting together the panel, alongside PSAA chair Anthony Fernando, Kamara Jeffrey, Marianne Salih, Anthony Careless, and Victor Platt, a political science student assisting the Alumni Association this year. In the coming months, the PSAA looks forward to hosting another event, and to launching a new alumni mentorship program.

The news.politics team

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Graduated with a Political Science degree? Want to get involved with Alumni activities or a mentorship program? Contact polsci.alum@utoronto.ca.

Sandbrook, continued from page 1

"Sandbrook asks big, socially-relevant questions and pursues them with rigor and vigor."

Anthropologist Marc Edelman (City University of New York) has talked of Richard's broad knowledge of so many different regions in the world, and of his capacity for seeing the forest, "when I could only see the trees." Ali Guven, now at Koç University in Turkey, has written about the moral centre of Sandbrook's contributions – the advocacy of ways to alleviate human suffering in less fortunate societies.

Sandbrook was instrumental in establishing the Scarborough campus' co-op international development program, a flagship for UTSc and one of the first in Canada. He has been primary supervisor for over 30 doctoral students, and involved with as many more as committee member. They are now making their mark around the world. They recall his

thoughtfulness, care, generosity, supportiveness, humility, respect, humour.

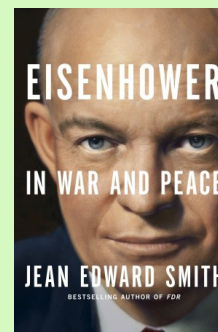
As Mitu Sengupta, now an award-winning teacher at Ryerson University, said in a tribute delivered in April 2011, "how do you articulate your thoughts about someone who has so profoundly shaped your life, career, and success?" She talked about how much she learned about writing and revising from him, and how much she developed as a teacher because of him.

In her tribute, Judith Teichman said she could only scratch the surface of the messages she received from scholarly colleagues and former students, so many of them eager to write at length about what they admired about, and owed to, Richard Sandbrook.

As for what happens now, as Sengupta says, "I cannot imagine Richard retiring in the conventional sense of the word. I am sure he will continue to surprise, inspire, and innovate."

Emeritus Corner

Jean Edward Smith, who taught at U of T for 34 years before officially "retiring" in 1999, has joined the History Department at Columbia as senior scholar in residence, after a year at Princeton and twelve at Marshall. The most recent of his important political biographies, *Eisenhower in War and Peace*, will be published by Random House in early 2012. At Columbia, Jean will write *Dark Decade*, a history of the presidential years of George W. Bush. "I'm only seventy-eight," he says, "and I'm just getting my second wind."



Rob Vipond Launches Leadership Lunches

The idea came from knowing that the department was eager to re-engage alumni in the life of the department, and that students wanted connections to post-university life. Rob

with many former students. He contacted alumni who had distinguished themselves in a range of fields, and the response was enthusiastic. The Association of Political Science Students (APSS) was

was an informal give-and-take gathering with 15-plus students, followed by a visit to Joe Wong's and Jeff Kopstein's POL 101 class in Convocation Hall.

The next lunch, in March, spotlighted Alex Shprintsen, producer with the CBC's National news, and Jennifer Deyell, independent screen writer. Once again, a great success. In September, Vipond's guest was Adam Halim, from Procter & Gamble, who attracted a large audience of 50 undergraduates. Future plans include bringing in alums with careers in the Ontario public service, policy consulting, and financial institutions.

Vipond and the APSS executive see this initiative as a huge success. Returning alumni are delighted to contribute, and students get to see a range of careers illustrated for them, and to ask questions about finding that first position. As Vipond puts it, "students don't need to be convinced that political science is interesting, or that you can do a lot of different things with it; but they are interested in knowing how you do it – how you start a career in an area that has grabbed you while you've been a student."



Soraya Farha (centre) with lawyer-husband Frank McLaughlin (right) and Prof. Rob Vipond (left) at the first Leadership Lunch, February 2011

Vipond saw the "Leadership Lunches" as a way to address both goals.

As a superb teacher of long standing, with nine years of experience as a department chair, Vipond was still in touch

keen to send word out to other students, and the response was equally keen.

The first lunch featured Soraya Farha and Frank McLaughlin, both lawyers (see profile of Soraya below). It

ALUMNI profile

Soraya Farha: Lawyer, Adjudicator, Mentor

Soraya Farha started her undergraduate work intent on an English major, but took POL 100 without knowing what to expect. She loved it; she did well in it; and switched to Political Science.

Rob Vipond's second-year course in American politics deepened her enthusiasm. "He was an excellent lecturer – articulate, clear, accessible, wryly humorous – and he provided incredibly detailed feedback on written work, pushing you to the next level." She also took a course in political theory, and encountered Alkis Kontos as the electrifying instructor who helped excite a long-standing interest in theory.

After a year abroad at the London School of Economics, she returned to Vipond's fourth-year seminar on American constitutionalism – "a wonderful course." Among the guests who stood out was Jennifer Nedelsky, a fem-

inist interested in law and politics. She went from a B.A. to the U of T law school in 1985, and then into private practice.

Soraya took several years away from that practice while having three children with her lawyer husband. Then on the advice of an adjudicator, she applied for a position on the Health Services Appeal and Review Board, a provincial-government-appointed tribunal which hears appeals about health matters, including the eligibility of people for health coverage in Ontario, and the coverage of specific procedures within and beyond the province.

Soraya was appointed a vice-chair of the Board, and is now one of its most experienced members. She has also been appointed to the Health Professions Appeal and Review Board, which reviews decisions made by regulated health professional bodies like the

College of Physicians and Surgeons.

In both capacities, Soraya chairs panels of adjudicators, and is responsible for drafting and editing written decisions. She also has mentoring functions, and helps develop and deliver educational programs. The flexibility of these jobs, more likely to be found in the broad field of administrative law than other parts of the profession, allows her a modicum of balance between career and family life.

On the invitation of Rob Vipond, Soraya and her husband Frank McLaughlin returned to meet a group of undergraduates for the first of his "leadership lunches" on Monday, February 28. (See above.) She loved the experience, and hopes it provided the students she met with the kind of "great experience" that she had when she was in their shoes.



Peter Loewen, UTM faculty member, in Lima, Peru. The very opposite of a sedentary thinker, Loewen equipped himself this July with nothing more or less than a motorcycle, a GPS and a boot stuffed with cash and rode from Toronto to Lima. Here he is, pictured in his natural habit. He's done this before, biking from Cairo to Cape Town in 2008. so we guess he knew what he was in for. And now, after weathering fog, rain, high winds, reckless drivers, extorting police, and dangerously-twisted roads, he'll be back on the bike before long – maybe as far south as you can go in the Americas, to Cape Horn.



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