Egypt, Syria, and other parts of the “Arab Spring” are much on Ron Deibert’s mind. On one morning full of news reports of large crowds gathering in central Cairo, “we were monitoring; we had colleagues looking for signs of government control, some at great personal risk.”

This is Deibert’s world. For years, he has written and talked about the use of internet connections to organize citizens, and for the sophisticated methods used by governments to control what they view as threatening activity. He and his team made headlines around the world with their work pointing to a pattern of cyber-espionage that seemed to be based in China. Since then, they have seen other governments curtailing internet use at crucial times like elections.

The Citizen Lab is the hub of the multi-tentacled Deibert network that reaches around the globe. It includes students and professionals from political science, law, sociology, and computer science. Beyond that are hundreds of researchers and monitors, in turn connected to hundreds more.

All this has won dizzying media attention (including headlines in the N.Y. Times) and prestigious awards. He was recently named one of the five most influential IT security thinkers world-wide, by SC Magazine (aimed at security professionals). He’s been included in media lists, either as one of the “best and brightest” (Esquire) or as helping make the world a better place (Macleans). He’s received not one but two top teaching awards at the U of T. His long run as co-instructor (with Janice Stein) in the huge first-year course in global affairs (POL 108) has made him a legend among thousands of students. 

continued on page 9
Mike Layton’s new job

Seven years after graduating from Erindale College, Mike Layton was on Toronto’s City Council, representing Trinity-Spadina. He must have been told a hundred times that he had politics in his blood. His great-grandfather and grandfather were cabinet ministers (in Quebec and Ottawa). His father Jack leads the federal NDP.

That’s not quite where he was heading when in 1999 he entered what was then called Erindale College – now UTM. He was mostly interested in biochemistry, and took an introduction to Canadian Politics as a lark. He liked it, finding the issues being grappled with more engaging than “breaking into equations.” And in his next year, a comparative course taught by David Wolfe opened up opportunities for him to explore environmental policy in depth – “an incredible course.”

After finishing his B.A. in 2003, he went on to an M.E.S. at York University specializing in urban planning. After that, he worked on the NDP’s 2005-06 national election campaign and the Ontario provincial party’s campaign to get marginalized communities more engaged in politics. An opportunity opened up at Environmental Defence Canada, where he ended up coordinating the Green Energy Act Alliance, pressuring and working with the Ontario government to improve its environmental policy.

Layton hadn’t seriously thought of electoral politics before, but on the prompting of friends and supporters he decided to make a run for the inner city council seat that he ended up winning in the fall of 2010. As a progressive getting into office in the same election that swung council and the mayorality away from his priorities, he has found it a challenge. “You don’t win all your battles, but in the process you build relationships, learn about new subject areas, and you have an opportunity to impact people’s lives. You can go home thinking, ‘I helped solve a problem.’”

Politics by the numbers

We have seen dramatic changes in Political Science at UTM. We have a new home in what is now called the William G. Davis Building (re-named to honour Bill Davis’s contribution to the founding of Erindale College). We have a new Principal (Deep Saini) and a new Dean (Amy Mullin). In July 2012, Ed Schatz will become the new chair, taking over from me and from Graham White, who was the UTM department’s first chair, and is returning as interim chair for 2011-12.

But most importantly of all for us, and most gratifying for me, has been the addition of three tremendously impressive and energetic new colleagues. Peter Loewen, who works in political psychology and electoral politics, joined us in January 2010, having completed a Ph.D. from Université de Montréal and postdoctoral fellowships at UBC and the University of California, San Diego. Todd Hall joined us a year ago with a broad set of interests in international relations, after doctoral work at Chicago and postdocs at Princeton and Harvard. This January, Lee Ann Fujii joined us after completing her degree and three years of teaching at George Washington University. She has worked on the politics of genocide, and has published a penetrating study of the Rwandan genocide with Cornell University Press (Killing Neighbors, 2009).

The Department’s undergraduate enrolments have been growing by leaps and bounds, while our faculty complement has remained static. So we have reason to hope that the process of faculty renewal will accelerate at UTM. As a department, we have much to be proud of (as an external review undertaken this year confirmed): excellent teachers, exceptionally productive researchers, and terrific staff.
Confronting AIDS in Africa with Antoinette Handley

Antoinette Handley’s research agenda has always tackled large and challenging issues. She is now in the midst of exploring responses to AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa, bringing her face to face with heroism and innovation in some settings; criminal neglect and misguidedness in others. There are heroes and villains aplenty, and much that is confusing and uncertain in the middle.

The initial ideas for this germinated while she was a graduate student. But it was during a 2010 sabbatical that she really dove into this “political economy” of the epidemic, tracking corporate response in four very different countries – Kenya and Uganda in East Africa, and further south Botswana and her native South Africa.

Handley does not doubt that business leaders have to focus on the bottom line. The question is how expansively they think about self interest. One response would be narrowly defensive – firing HIV-positive workers, leaving the bulk of policy and health-care response to the state. The other is to acknowledge that the epidemic is having a broad impact on economic prospects, and to provide help for all employees and their families.

The South African case is particularly compelling. State response under former President Mbeki was a miserable failure, but there are indications of some broad thinking within a business sector that does not have a particularly distinguished history of treating its employees well. The mining sector is illustrative of a broader shift in employment needs from the 1970s on, away from unskilled and short-term labour and toward the more skilled and long-term labour. This is a workforce that needs to be retained over a longer term. “Often there is an individual, high up, who is seized of the issue and pushes hard.”

The big picture is still dominated by the most profound inequities, particularly where governments have failed to respond, or where state capacity is highly constrained. Mostly it’s skilled and middle-class employees who get treatment; others don’t. It’s better that the private sector in some settings is helping some people rather than none. Still... There’s a large-scale analytical story about development in the midst of a social and political crisis of unimaginable proportions. There are also specific examples of real change on the ground – forged by institutions, communities, and individuals rising to the challenge. Weaving this together is Handley’s challenge. §

P.S. In January 2011, Handley became Undergraduate Director at the St. George campus, taking over from the hard-to-follow Linda White, working alongside Liz Jagdeo and Wil Kurth in managing one of the largest Political Science programs anywhere.

Jenn Donville’s “War Child” Commitments

Jenn Donville must have been one amazing bartender. Soon after finishing school, a regular customer at a Queen Street bar asked her what she did apart from serving drinks, and she started talking about her passionate interest in African development. The customer worked with War Child Canada, and soon afterwards offered her contracts to help them on HIV-AIDS and gender guidelines.

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Vivek Krishnamurthy’s journey to Oxford and Washington

Where do you start? Rhodes Scholarship? Clerking at the Supreme Court of Canada? Helping prepare Bangladesh’s case in a maritime boundary dispute from his desk in a Washington, D.C. law office? Top student throughout his B.A. in Political Science and Economics?

In 2010, Vivek Krishnamurthy began work at Foley Hoag, whose D.C. office has carved out a reputation in representing clients (including governments) before international tribunals. It is, as he says, “very neat work.” One case involves a border dispute between Bangladesh and both Myanmar and India, being adjudicated by two different tribunals. He is also working on a case being brought by Ecuador against Columbia for herbicides sprayed aerially drifting over the border and affecting rain forest habitat and indigenous community life.

The law wasn’t always his focus, but in the process of completing his Oxford masters (in 2004), he became more interested in the field. After a one-year stint working on electoral reform for the Ontario government, he went to Yale for a law degree, completed in 2008, and after that clerked for Mr. Justice Morris Fish, of the Supreme Court of Canada.

Of his undergraduate experience, Vivek says without a second’s hesitation, “simply superb – I don’t think I could have had a better experience anywhere else in the world.” When he went to Oxford after completing his joint specialist degree, he found he was as well prepared as any of his colleagues.

While at U of T, “I was fortunate to develop close relationships with several professors. Yes, it’s more difficult than it would have been at a smaller university; you need to take the initiative and go out and meet faculty members. There is a real effort at U of T to have undergraduate courses taught by faculty, with really good teachers in large classes. That makes a huge difference in the quality of student experience. From the first summer after first year, I had opportunities to work on cutting edge research, with Ron Deibert at the early stages of his work; and Stephen Clarkson in analyzing the role of the internet in federal election campaigns. The education that I received compares really favourably with Oxbridge and the American Ivy leagues.”

Vivek grew up, as he puts it, “all over Canada.” His parents moved around, so he was born in Calgary, lived in Montreal and Ottawa, and then moved to Toronto just before starting at U of T. His parents are still in Toronto, and he hopes at some point that his career will take him back to Canada.

2010 Rhodes Scholarship winner

Erin Fitzgerald Honours B.A. in Political Science and International Relations was crowned with a Rhodes Scholarship in 2010. This is the second Rhodes for a Political Science student in recent years, Vivek Krishnamurthy winning his in 2002. We will check in with Erin in time for the next issue of news.politics.

Cliff van der Linden’s Vote Compass makes voters think

Political Science doctoral candidate Cliff van der Linden didn’t invent Vote Compass – used in Europe for years to guide potential voters to party positions on issues. But he knew an interesting idea when he saw a version of it while doing field work in Amsterdam. He pitched it to major Canadian TV networks, and CBC said yes.

More than 2 million Canadians took the survey which gets them to respond to questions that tap into a wide array of issues, and then compares their attitude set with the positions staked out by each party. Several U of T Political Scientists were involved, among them Jennifer Hove, Yannick Dufresne, Gregory Eady, Joelle Dumouchel and Andrew Ahern – all Ph.D. students, and recent M.A. graduates Adam Senft and Gilleen Witkowski. Prof. Peter Loewen was director of analytics. UTSC student Julia Varshavski spent many hours going through party platforms, press releases, leader speeches, and media stories.

The team behind this was driven in part by knowing how much voting turnout has declined, especially among the young, and how unevenly information spreads among prospective voters. Among the strengths of this on-line tool is that it allowed respondents to unlock a treasure trove of information about what each party stood for.

Van der Linden came to our Ph.D. program in 2006 with a masters in journalism (Western Ontario) and a B.A. in Political Science and Economics (McMaster). Apart from his doctoral work (on the security implications of European integration – with Emanuel Adler as supervisor), he has played a central role in re-designing and expanding the department’s web site. Active citizen indeed!
Julie was always interested in politics. One of her uncles was Michael Pitfield, for a time the most important public servant in Ottawa, so she grew up with swirls of conversations about what was happening in Ottawa. It seemed natural to concentrate in Political Science for a B.A. she completed in 1986.

Since then, she has been head of current affairs for CBC, and is now executive director of a division called “Studio and Unscripted Programming” – responsible for the development and production of programs that include talk shows, lifestyle and reality programming, variety arts and music, sports and comedy.

Soon after starting work for an investment company, where she realized how much she liked research, the idea of pursuing a career in journalism got planted in her head. She started at Global as a researcher on business stories, and before long switched over to CBC and worked on Venture – an important early business-related program on TV.

After that, she had a variety of creative and producing roles for other programs and rose to responsibility over investigative journalism programs like The Fifth Estate. “The challenge was to find ways of ensuring that tough stories got done: you have to be good at dealing with lawyers, protecting sources – my job was to make sure that they got the right support.”

More recently, her producer portfolio includes a range that extends from Battle of the Blades to George Stroumboulopoulos Tonight to Canada’s Next Great Prime Minister. This she does with two girls at home (aged 10 and 12), and running long distance (including marathons) with a friend she first met in a U of T politics class.

What about her undergraduate years. “I think that experience really opened up my brain – to reading, to talking about people interested in learning, to a kind of thinking that is critical to success, to handling large amounts of information, and to writing.” “The most important is the open mind, being able to tap into different disciplines, to think expansively.” She talks about how critical it is to be able to write effectively, for everything that she does. “You need sophisticated communication skills for any job – you need to be clear in organizing thoughts, and you need to write in ways that are not ambiguous: I can’t imagine any senior job anywhere that doesn’t demand that you be a good communicator.”

The 2011-12 year will see four searches for new positions: quantitative methods; public policy; federalism and multi-level governance; and the “emergence of new global powers.” In subsequent years we hope for continued support from the Dean’s Office for new faculty positions on the St. George campus, and my colleagues at UTM and UTSC are working to the same end on their campuses.

Next year will be full of challenges in managing such large and successful teaching programs, but we can stand proud for the intellectual range that we represent, the teaching standards we uphold, and the scholarship that we generate.
1. RUTH MARSHALL  
Ass’t Prof. in PS & Dept. for the Study of Religion, St. George campus  
Interests: Religion and political theory; transnational religions (W. Africa especially); war and violence  
Favourite food: Things salty and fried  
Best place you’ve visited: Best for what?  
Food – Saint-Père-sous-Vezelay, France. Beach – Nosy Ve Island, Madagascar.  
ROM or AGO: It depends whether I have kids in tow, so the ROM, because they’re always in tow.  
Summer 2011 Plans: Finishing my deck, writing, keeping my sanity.

2. CHRIS COCHRANE  
Ass’t Prof., UTSC  
Interests: Canadian (in comparative context) political disagreement and party competition  
Born: Saint John, New Brunswick  
Favourite food: Dates  
One thing people wouldn’t guess: The most stereotypically Canadian thing about me is that when I was an undergraduate I drove a Zamboni on weekends.  
Summer 2011 plans: I have to sell my family’s house in Alberta, and help move my wife and two daughters to Toronto.

3. MATTHEW CUTHBERT  
Department Assistant, St. George campus  
Born: Downtown Toronto  
Best place you’ve visited: The Necropolis of Glasgow  
Most productive time of day: Late at night when everyone is already asleep.  
Summer 2011 plans: Running an annual music festival and working too much.

4. CHRISTIAN BREUNIG  
Ass’t Prof., St. George campus  
Interests: Comparative public policy and political economy in advanced democracies  
Born: Buchen, Germany  
University/Grad school: Ruprecht-Karls Universitaet Heidelberg, University of Oklahoma, University of Washington  
Guilty pleasure: Fresh air  
Summer 2011 plans: Research trip abroad

5. LEE ANN FUJII  
Ass’t Prof., UTM  
Interests: Political mass killings and genocide in Africa  
University/Grad school: Reed College, Haverford College, George Washington University  
Guilty pleasure: NCIS Tuesday nights  
Favourite food: All  
Summer 2011 plans: Fieldwork

6. WILSON PRICHARD  
Ass’t Prof., St. George campus  
Interests: Political economy of international development, primarily in sub-Saharan Africa  
Guilty pleasure: Sports news.  
Most productive time of day: I do well before lunch and from the late afternoon onwards. During those few hours after lunch, on the other hand, I spend a lot of energy digesting.  
Summer 2011 plans: I will be working on my first book in Italy serving as co-Director of a Research Centre at the Institute of Development Studies in Brighton, UK looking at the political economy of taxation and development. With any luck I’ll sneak a vacation in there as well.

7. LUCAN WAY  
Ass’t Prof., UTSC  
Interests: Weak states and regime change – e.g. in Africa and post-communist regions  
Guilty pleasure: Reading a political biography while eating and having a cold one in the middle of the day.  
One thing you can’t live without: Internet news on recent events in the Middle East.  
Summer 2011 plans: Cape Cod

8. PETER LOEWEN  
Ass’t Prof., UTM  
Interests: Canadian elections; public attitudes; political behaviour; experimental design  
One thing you can’t live without: A motorcycle.  
Last movie watched: The Cohen Brothers’ True Grit. Surely, thumbs up.  
Guilty pleasure: Wings. And reading Foucault.  
Summer 2011 plans: Work, and a quick ride to Bolivia.
9. MARGARET KOHN
Assoc. Prof., UTSC
*Interests:* Political philosophy – critical theory, colonialism, urbanism
*University/Grad school:* Williams College and Cornell University
*Favourite food:* A Really good cheese platter.
*Guilty pleasure:* Fresh air
*Summer 2011 plans:* A cottage in Georgian Bay and family camping.

10. RAUNA KUOKKANEN
Ass’t Prof. in Pol and Aboriginal Studies
*Born:* Finland
*University background:* University of Oulu (Finland) M.A., UBC (M.A. and Ph.D.)

11. TODD HALL
Ass’t Prof., UTM
*Interests:* Intern’l relations theory; role of emotions; nationalism; Chinese foreign policy
*Born:* Oregon City
*Favourite food:* Fresh slice of Vollkornbrot with butter, horseradish, and Harzer cheese.
*One thing people wouldn’t guess:* Still working on getting my driver’s license.
*Summer 2011 plans:* Not yet planned.

12. VERA ACHVARINA
Ass’t Prof., St. George campus, limited-term appointment
*Interests:* Human security; mobilization in war (including of children)
*Born:* Obninsk, Russia (USSR)
*Last movie watched:* Black Swan
*One thing people wouldn’t guess:* That I can speak conversational Mandarin.
*Summer 2011 plans:* Writing and family.

13. COURTNEY JUNG
Professor, St. George campus
*Interests:* Multiculturalism, democratic participation and identity formation. Her work engages normative debates about these and related questions through research on, for example, political identities in transitioning South Africa, indigeneity in Mexico and Canada, and the constitutionalization of rights in developing countries. Her writing, then, lies at the intersection of contemporary political theory and comparative politics.
*University/Grad school:* Tufts, Columbia, Yale

14. LOUIS TENTSOS
Graduate Secretary, St George campus
*One thing people wouldn’t guess:* I have a black belt in Tae-Kwon-Do. I was actually in ridiculously good shape before I went to university and put on the Freshman 15!
*Favourite food:* Gyros from the Danforth. And Beef Sashimi from Simon Sushi.
*One thing you can’t live without:* Probably my acoustic guitar.
*Summer 2011 plans:* I’m going back to visit the motherland – Greece of course!

15. RYAN HURL
Ass’t Prof., UTSC, limited-term
*Interests:* U.S. and Canadian constitutional law; judicial politics; Aboriginal and environmental issues
*Best place you’ve visited:* Florence, Italy, but I do not recommend the steak.
*Favourite food:* Chicken vindaloo
*Guilty pleasure:* Loud rock music that should only really be enjoyed by much younger people.
*Summer 2011 plans:* Research, writing, teaching my youngest son how to play basketball.

16. WENDY WONG
Ass’t Prof., St. George campus
*Interests:* Transnational advocacy networks; intern’l human rights
*Most productive time of day:* I am a morning person, and I like watching the sun rise as I type away.
*Guilty pleasure:* Reading celebrity gossip websites and trolling craigslist for fun finds.
*Favourite food:* Fried chicken
*Summer 2011 plans:* Teaching, writing, and going somewhere tropical!
Aaron Kates Rose does a lot at once. “Looking back,” from the perspective of completing his final year, “I don’t feel that I have compromised on either my life outside of school or inside it. It may have cost me some hours of sleep, but I’ve managed to see friends, travel, visit home, study abroad, and find some time to relax while keeping my GPA afloat.”

He’s done more than just keep his GPA afloat! In November 2010, he won the Frederick G. Gardiner scholarship for being a top student in the joint specialist program in Economics and Political Science on the St. George campus. He had already won awards at the Trudeau Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies and University College.

Among the courses with lasting imprint have been “Peacebuilding,” with Robert Mathews, and “Becoming Israel: War, Peace, and the Politics of Israel’s Identity,” with Emanuel Adler. This past year, he directed the Peace and Conflict Studies Conference, centred on local community approaches to peace, bringing together 25 speakers from around the world and attracting 300 attendees. And this is not all he juggles at once. “It’s easy to get overwhelmed – and impossible to keep up with all the events, clubs, and other opportunities that are available through the University. The best you can do is keep an ear and eye open.”

Aaron plans graduate studies in law and global affairs, and hopes eventually to work with an organization that is focused on social justice or conflict resolution, either as an intern or volunteer.

Samya Hassan’s parents convinced her four years ago to stay at home and take advantage of the co-op program at U of T’s Scarborough campus. Samya immersed herself in her undergraduate experience, excelled across the board, and now is choosing among the prestigious graduate and professional programs that have admitted her.

She was drawn into Political Science in courses taught by Prof. Phil Triadafilopoulos and instructor Holly Gibbs. From those beginnings, she became a four time winner of the Queen Elizabeth II Aiming for the Top Scholarship, awarded for outstanding academic promise and achievement. She has won the Living History in Canada Scholarship for an essay about Canadian war veterans. And she’s twice been recognized at UTSC for her volunteer commitment.

Beyond campus, Samya is the founder and director of a not-for-profit foundation that raises money for breast cancer treatment in Pakistan. She is acutely aware of how lucky she and other Canadians are in having a universal health care system. “Through donations, we hope that Pakistani women with breast cancer, who could not otherwise afford it, can have a hope for treatment.”

She hopes to work on social policy and poverty reduction in either the provincial or federal governments. You’ll be hearing more from her.

Nathan Berman’s story is an amazing one. When he didn’t graduate from high school, he would have had difficulty imagining that he would end up at university – let alone that he would be a stand out among hundreds of other talented students in Political Science.

By the end of 2010, he had scored a hat trick in student awards. He won the Monte Kwinter Award and the Andrew Nigrini Sr. Memorial Scholarship for outstanding achievement among second year political science students on the St. George campus; and the Pollara Book prize for quantitative research presentation.

His undergraduate career began with Woodsworth College’s Academic Bridging Program, which opened a huge door to him. Nathan was quickly drawn to Political Science after taking Rod Hadow’s POL 103 – Canada in Comparative Context.

He is a true scholar – often in the front row asking questions. And while he obviously spends considerable energy on his course work, he finds additional time to manage an activist website that monitors hate graffiti in Hamilton (www.hateinhamilton.ca) which feeds into his interest in issues of collective identity. At every turn, he sees the linkages between academic research and community improvement.

With nine U of T academic awards under his belt, Nathan plans to pursue a Master’s degree in Political Science, and is trying to decide between a number of quite different research questions that have caught his attention. There can’t be any doubt that he will excel. 
New grad scholarship honours Al Johnson

Al Johnson died last November, after an extraordinary record of public service in government and public broadcasting. His career included a six-year-long appointment as Professor of Public Policy and Public Administration at the University of Toronto.

With Johnson’s link to Political Science, and his major contributions to broadcasting, it is hardly surprising that Frank Peers wanted to create a graduate scholarship in his name. He had already created several graduate awards to honour the distinguished colleagues he served with while an active member of the department. Frank’s own important leadership in public affairs at CBC prior to his joining the professorate also made Johnson a natural choice for a new award.

Al Johnson joined Saskatchewan’s public service from soon after the 1945 completion of his U of T masters degree in public administration. (He later obtained a Ph.D. at Harvard.) He was an influential player in that extraordinarily innovative provincial government until moving to the Department of Finance in Ottawa in 1964.

From 1975 until 1982, he was President and Board Chair of the CBC, where he was a strong supporter of the kind of public affairs programming for which the Corporation had become famous. And as Peers notes, “he helped maintain funding levels for the CBC throughout the period of his leadership: the cuts started only after his term ended.”

Johnson’s next career was in the academy, first at Queen’s and then U of T. At the same time, he applied his wealth of knowledge and experience to join a network of Canadians helping South Africa effect the constitutional transition to full democracy, eventually developing and directing the South Africa/Canada program on Governance in the 1990s.

In 2004, he published Dream No Little Dreams: A Biography of the Douglas Government of Saskatchewan, 1944-61, which won the CPSA’s Donald Smiley Prize. In 1997, he was named a Companion of the Order of Canada, one of a great number of awards showered on him.

The A.W. Johnson Scholarship in Canadian Government and Public Administration is awarded each year to a graduate student in Political Science whose interests lie in those fields. It is a worthy remembrance of someone Frank Peers refers to as “a gracious man; a very good person.”

Retiring Officially

Over the last year, the department has marked the official retirements of several faculty with long and distinguished careers, teaching countless students, contributing to what we know about Canadian federalism, development in Africa, Russian courts and politics, Indian politics, and Canadian theory. They will stay active in one way or another, and we will not be losing sight of them, but the department has ample reason to celebrate their contributions:

Spring 2010 retirements:
- Donald Forbes
- Richard Simeon
- Peter Solomon

Spring 2011:
- Arthur Rubinoff
- Richard Sandbrook
- Susan Solomon

In the spring of 2009 the St. George campus department was also saddened that Rita O’Brien, office manager, took a step up in her career by moving into a challenging new position. She and her liltng Irish voice are now enlivening Hart House, not so very far away. In June 2011, we are also having to bid farewell to Catharine Tunacliffe, who filled the O’Brien shoes for an eventful and pressured two years with great good humour. We wish her well as she marks out the next stage of her eventful career.

DEIBERT, continued from page 1

undergraduates.

His work is serious and careful. “We have to be very focused, emphasizing our role in generating carefully-structured and methodologically sound research, aimed at raising awareness generally about the political uses of cyberspace.” It’s also important not to fall into the trap of making guesses, especially with so many demands from the media.

It helps having gifted collaborators, and the great talents of the Citizen Lab’s research manager Masashi Crete-Nishihata (recently graduated as a joint specialist in Political Science and Sociology), and senior research colleagues like Rafai Rohozinski.

Four teenagers at home help put some healthy limits on work. Being able to work remotely sometimes helps – there too the internet is a source of tyrannical control as well as liberation. §

The news.politics team

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Soon after Toronto’s Oct 25th election, the Political Science Alumni Association invited all the new councilors to a reception on campus. Almost all of them said “yes,” setting the stage for a terrific event for the newly formed PSAA.

The municipal election was one of the most unpredictable in Toronto’s history, surprising even the sharpest political observers. Rob Ford’s simple and now iconic slogan “stop the gravy train” resonated with large numbers of citizens, upsetting some established voting patterns. Several council veterans were also stepping aside, leaving more room than usual for new faces.

An energetic team of PSAA executive members, headed by Anthony Fernando, Kamara Jeffery, and Kerry Wicks went to work preparing for “Meet the Rookie Councillors.” On December 1st, twelve of the fourteen newly-sworn in members joined a crowd of Political Science alumni, current students, faculty, staff, and other political junkies in University College’s Croft Chapter House.

The newbies included two Political Science alumni – Mike Layton, who completed his undergraduate degree at the Mississauga campus (story on p. 2), and Mary Fragedakis, who has a B.A. and M.A. from the U of T.

Schmoozing was eased by wine and cheese generously supplied by alumni member Kerry Wicks, owner of Harwood Estate Vineyards. Anthony Fernando, interim coordinator of PSAA, served as the engaging MC. He talked about the Association’s plans for the near future, including a mentorship program connecting recent graduates with mid-career professionals who have built successfully on their Political Science backgrounds.

Anyone interested in helping build the PSAA should contact Anthony directly at anthonynferando@yahoo.ca.

There is much change in the winds for Political Science at Scarborough – new faces, retirements, and plans for restructuring social sciences on that campus.

This past fall saw the arrival of Chris Cochrane, who completed his Ph.D. in our department (under Neil Nevitte) last year. Chris’s strengths lie in the subtle exploration of Canadian attitude patterns and making sense of them to a broad audience. Renan Levine also joined the faculty at UTSC, bringing with him a sterling teaching record in U.S. politics and methods in other parts of our tri-campus department.

The 2010-11 year has seen searches for two additional positions. Daniel Lee, a political theorist specializing in Roman law, is coming to us with a Ph.D. from Princeton and a post doc at Columbia. Bill Hurst is being appointed to a position in Asian politics. His final degree is from UC Berkeley; he has taught for three years at the University of Texas at Austin, and has already published two books on Chinese workers.

This year is also seeing the retirement of two long-standing members of the Scarborough team – Susan Solomon and Arthur Rubinoff. They have been major contributors over many years, and we will be sorry to see them leave the roster of full-time faculty.

This year’s new appointments maintain the full-time faculty complement at twelve (along with three contractually-limited positions). This represents significant growth for the discipline on that campus, and a reflection of how student numbers have expanded (to over 400 majors and 125 specialists.

This kind of growth for the whole Scarborough campus is leading to the creation of more discipline-based departments to replace the old social sciences and humanities clusters. Plans are now under way to “departmentalize” the social sciences, so that in the near future Political Science will become a stand-alone unit.

That will (in theory) put me (as Social Sciences chair) out of a job, though there is much to do in the meantime to ensure continued expansion to meet student numbers. I am hoping for additional appointments at least in public policy and international relations in the next couple of years.

Carla Norloff (discipline rep for PS), Lucan Way, Peggy Kohn, and I have new books on topics as varied as international cooperation, authoritarian regimes, postcolonial theory, and climate governance (see Books article on p. 11).

So a busy year indeed.
Books, books, books

Politics faculty members don’t just publish their research in books. But do they ever write and edit a lot of them, and for major publishing houses around the world.


Simone Chambers was co-editor of the monumental four-volume *Encyclopedia of Political Science* (Congressional Quarterly Press). Collections of articles were edited or co-edited by Ron Deibert (*Access Controlled*), Jacque Bertrand (*Multinational States in Asia*); David Rayside (*Faith, Politics, and Sexual Diversity in Canada and the United States*); John Kirton (*Securing the Global Economy*); Patricia McCarney (*Peri-Urban Water and Sanitation Services*; *Cities and Governance*); and Linda White and Peter Russell (*Essential Readings in Canadian Government and Politics*).

And if we go back just a short while, to 2009 and 2008, the array of publications is even more dramatic. Ryan Balot, Sylvia Bashevkin, Stephen Clarkson, Ron Deibert, Antoinette Handley, Randall Hansen, Courtney Jung, Jeff Kopstein, Rauna Kuokkanen, Ruth Marshall, Larry Leduc, David Rayside, Ayelet Shachar, Grace Skogstad, Janice Stein, and David Wolfe – all authored or co-authored books.

Fourteen additional volumes had U of T Political Science faculty as editors. This adds up to about 50 books, covering every field in the discipline, countless political issues, and every continent except Antarctica.

And then there are books published by our recently completed Ph.D. students. But that’s another story. §

Graduated Ph.D.s Winning Awards

- Debra Thompson (Ph.D. 2010), Governor General’s Gold Medal 2011; also the 2010 John McMenemy Prize for best article in Canadian Journal of Political Science.
- Stephen White (Ph.D. 2010), Antoine Bilodeau (Ph.D. 2004), and Prof. Neil Nevitte, 2011 John McMenemy Prize for best article in the CJPS.
- Jenn Wallner (Ph.D. 2010), Deil Wright Award for best paper in federalism and intergovernmental relations, APSA, 2010
- Robert Sparling (Ph.D. 2008), APSA’s Leo Strauss Award, 2009, for best dissertation in political philosophy (Johann Georg Hamann and the Enlightenment Project)

Faculty honours

- Graham White has served as CPSA President for 2010-11; the fourth department member in 20 years to hold this position (Grace Skogstad, Sylvia Bashevkin, Peter Russell being the others.)
- Stephen Clarkson has been named a Member of the Order of Canada, joining Janice Stein, Stefan Dupré, and Cran Pratt in that distinction.
Joe Wong and Jeff Kopstein in Convocation Hall, teaching POL101 before 1100 St. George campus students. The course title – *Democracy, Dictatorship, War, and Peace* – speaks to its wide scope, and the daunting challenge facing these star instructors and their team of a dozen-and-a-half Political Science T.A.s. Guest speakers have included Janice Stein, who until recently taught a first year course in global politics (with Ron Deibert), and U of T President David Naylor, who talked about the Canadian response to SARS in the context of a broader discussion of state response to emergencies.

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