

Department of Political Science and International Affairs

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Editor: Dr. Kerwin Swint

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Model Arab League Had Outstanding Year

By Jeffrey Drennan

The KSU Model Arab League did an outstanding job this year at both the Southern Regional and National Model Arab League conferences. The team represented the country of Sudan, and brought home awards in 6 out of the 8 committees during the National conference for a total of 10 out of the 14 delegates.

Katie Sizemore was awarded an individual awards at both spring conferences while also serving as Vice Chair of the Political Affairs Committee. **Dustin Taylor** received an award at both conferences in the Political Affairs Committee. **Marshall Watson** was awarded individual awards at both conference representing in the Palestinian Affairs Committee **Mohamad Said** also received two awards while in the Palestinian Affairs Committee. **Jessie Belk** was awarded an individual delegate award for work in the Joint Defense Committee during the National Conference. **Javier Vilchis** was also awarded an award for work in the Joint Defense Committee. **Ali Hussain** and **Damaso Saka** were both awarded individual awards for representation in the Social Affairs Committee. **Hina Asghar** was also recognized for being a Judge on the Arab Court of justice. **Marshall Watson** and **Mohammad Said** were two of only ten students invited by the National Council on Arab Relations to spend two weeks in Saudi Arabia in June. As captain of this year's team, I worked in a single delegation, received an individual award in both Southeast Regional and the National conference in the Special Committee on Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons.

We would also like to **Mrs. Linda Morrisson** and **Dr. Thomas Doleys** for volunteering their time and energy by advising and traveling with the Model Arab League team.

2010 Student Honorees

Outstanding Political Science Student

Emily Jayne Hyndman

Faculty Honoree: **Dr. Tara Stricko**

Outstanding International Affairs Student

Laura Elena Nava

Faculty Honoree: **Dr. Jack Moran**

Outstanding MPA Graduate Student

Rhonda Nicole Hill

Faculty Honoree: **Dr. Andrew Ewoh**

Outstanding MSCM Graduate Student

Edoh Agbehonou

Faculty Honoree: **Dr. Linda Johnson**

ANOTHER BANNER YEAR FOR STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Pi Sigma Alpha

The national honor society for Political Science. Inductees to Pi Sigma Alpha have shown excellence in the study of Political Science and a commitment to leadership. The faculty advisor is **Dr. Andrew Pieper**.

Newly inducted members for the 2009-2010 academic year are:

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Samantha Bowen | Jeffrey Drennan | Mohammad Said |
| Rebecca Brooks | Meghan Ellison | Craig Smith |
| Douglas Comin | Andrea Ghavamian | |
| Benjamin Conklin | Andrew Gibbs | |

Model UN

The KSU Model UN Team continued its streak of excellence, taking 25 delegates to the National Model United Nations at the Marriott Marquis in New York in April. Ireland, with **Nikola Kolev** as country chair, won a distinguished delegation award, and four of the Ireland team members were recognized by their committees as outstanding delegates. Competition was fierce from the 3500 students from universities from all over the world.

The KSU Team:

| | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ali Abedi | Coy Dumas | Chiara Norce |
| Jean Akakpo | Michael Dutcher | Claire Ogee |
| Arijana Alic | Rebecca Gallegos | Olamide Pariola |
| Hina Asghar | Gerladine Galue | Punit Patel |
| Kristie Azaroff | Kasim Hasan | Sal Sandal |
| Lauren Bencini | Ryan Herz | Heather Sigley |
| Anisha Bhandari | John Silva | Alexa Higginbotham |
| Ryan Bleckley | Chris Jackson | Donnie Smith |
| Sara Johnson | Renee Tomczak | Nick Bohnenkamp |
| Valerie Bouzy | Nikola Kolev | Stefanie Vaught |
| Matthew Cole | Peter Logsdon | Victoria Vaught |
| Doug Comin | Caitlin Mintern | Jeff Wilson |
| Jeff Drennan | Aleksandra Ninova | Dan Zimmerman |

Model Arab League

Continued from page 1 story:

The full KSU Model Arab League team includes:

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Jessie Belk | Shadi Jaraysi | Dustin Taylor |
| Kristen Carusos | Mohammad Said | Javier Vilchis |
| Jeff Drennan | Damaso Saka | Marshall Watson |
| Michael Flores | Kristen Schaeff | Christian Wintsch |
| Ali Hussain | Katie Sizemore | |

Mock Trial

The KSU Mock Trial team hosted its first tournament in November, the First Annual Owl Classic. The team also competed in tournaments at Duke, UGA, and Ga Tech. Several students secured bids to the National Championship Mock Trial at Furman University. At tournaments throughout the year, a number of students won individual awards, including **Lynn Zibanejerad**, who won an outstanding witness award, and **Brittany Briggs**, **Joe Roesch**, and **Marc Davis**, who won outstanding attorney awards. Advisors are **Dr. Elizabeth Gordon** and **Dr. William Gillespie**. Team members include:

| | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Jessica Bonesteel | Heather Fix | Kristin Poland |
| Brittany Briggs | Megan Giordano | Joe Roesch |
| Miranda Brown | Ian Hail | Adam Strotman |
| Marc Davis | Collin Hatcher | Lynn Zibanejadrad |
| Glen Doty | Galen Joyce | Haley Everson |

Model African Union

The KSU Model African Union continued to earn its reputation for excellence. The team received five awards at its 2010 national conference. **Assana Alio**, **Kareen Fobuzie**, and **Caroline Ofulah** were selected to serve as officers for their committees. The team is currently working with Medshare International to send a shipment of drugs to Sudan. Advisor is **Dr. Nurudeen Akinyemi**. Team members include:

| | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ali Abedi | Lainkor Deng | Marcel Maglo |
| Assana Alio | Carlton Duncan | Samantha Manedown |
| Kareen Fabuzie | Caroline Ofulah | Kharendawn Andrews |
| Jamihla Bobboj | Kasim Hasan | Ifeoluwa Onabanjo |
| Owen Chilongo | Alan Herrera | Trevor Sharpe |
| Kerry-Ann Coote | Fungai Karpenzi | Silvia Trejo |



Student Update

Justin Freeborn (POLS) recently graduated law school and passed the California bar. He is a staff attorney with the Western States Pension Assistance Project in Sacramento, CA.

Laura Keen (POLS 10) interned at the Georgia General Assembly in the 2010 session as a participant in the GA Legislative Intern Program.

Valerie Barrios Cagle (POLS 03) is attending Tulane Medical School.

Joanna Conlon (IA 07) is a staff coordinator with the British Consulate in Atlanta.

Derrick Dickey (POLS 05) is chief strategist for the gubernatorial campaign of GA state senator Eric Johnson.

Alums completing their second year of law school: **Katherine Knudsen, Christopher Chappell, Matthew Rollins, Sara Vorobjovs, Greg Clement.**

Carolina Grenados (IA 05) is a contractor for the Centers for Disease Control, facilitating review panels in the CDC's Global Aids Program.

Nick Ayers (POLS 10) was recently profiled in *The Washington Post*. As Executive Director of the Republican Governors Association in Washington, D.C., he has lead the organization to a premier position in national politics.

Marcela Guerrero (IA 02) works at Freedom House as a program officer for the Johannesburg Area, South Africa. She also received a Master's Degree in Public Policy from Syracuse University.

William Grogan (MPA 08), former Marietta deputy police chief, is now the police chief of the city of Dunwoody.

Natalia Meneses (IA 04, MPA 08) is graduate coordinator for the MPA program and newly approved MS in International Policy Management.

Faith Riley (IA 08) is the Southeast Regional Project Coordinator for the "Not for Sale Campaign," an anti-Human Trafficking non-profit organization.

IA/MSCM Graduate Pursues Global Health Career

Gloria Sandoval (IA, '04, MSCM, '05)
Global Health Recruitment Coordinator
Centers for Disease Control

I was asked to write about how my education helps me in my current position as the Centers for Disease Control ([CDC](#)) Global Health Recruitment Coordinator for this newsletter. Being a Kennesaw State University (KSU) alumnus with both of my degrees — BA in International Affairs (2004) and MS in Conflict Management (2005) — from KSU says a lot about my university. KSU prepared me well for my current position. I work with all CDC Global Programs to develop, implement and coordinate recruitment efforts to attract the world's best public health professionals for our domestic and international positions. Attracting world-wide talent isn't easy and in order to do so, I use every bit of learning and skills obtained at KSU.

My International Affairs' classes prepared me to research and understand the different environments and needs that people in diverse countries have, which helps me find the best candidates for every location and vacancy. My concentration in Business, Economics and Policy helps me study the competition, develop, implement and evaluate business strategies as well as to produce, present and implement recommendations at all levels. My Master's in Conflict Management helps me negotiate and reach agreements, resolve issues among our global programs, staff, vendors, and NGOs; and, it also makes my duties achievable. The knowledge and skills I acquired as a KSU undergraduate and graduate student helped me increase our applicant pool by 300% in only three years.

I remember those tough days and those difficult professors that forced me to go the extra mile, and I am thankful they did. Special thanks to my undergraduate advisor, Dr. Zebich-Knos who guided me through my educational choices, including my study abroad to Cuba, which I will always keep in my personal and professional treasure chest — and going straight from undergraduate to the Master's program without taking those much desired vacations. Thanks KSU!

Grad School Bound

Political science graduate **Kevin Schmidt** spent much of his senior year engaged in independent scholarly research looking into recent debates among American conservatives. Under the supervision of **Dr. Andrew Pieper**, Kevin studied nearly 10 years of conservative publications *The American Spectator* and *National Review*. Kevin's study, entitled "Bushwacked: Conservative Elites and the Bush Years" analyzed how conservative writers judged the policies of the George W. Bush administration. In addition to being honored at the Kennesaw State Undergraduate Research Reception on April 27, Kevin presented his findings on a panel at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association in January. Kevin plans to attend the University of Georgia to pursue his Ph.D. in Political Science.

Faculty News & Notes

Jeff Dewitt published an article in *Journal of Faculty Development* titled “Using Collaborative Research Projects to Facilitate Active Learning in Methods Courses.” He also presented a paper at the 2010 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association and was a panelist at the 2009 meeting of the American Political Science Association.

Maia Hallward and **Tavishi Bhasin** conducted a site visit in Turkey for a future study abroad program for the master program in International Policy Management. **Dr. Hallward** also participated in the Centennial Celebrations of the Ramallah Friends meeting. She also received funds from the Deborah Garner Professional Award to carry out research on local peace and justice issues.

Jack Moran published a book called *Solution of the Fist: Dostoevsky and the Roots of Modern Terrorism* (Lexington Press 2009). He was also named one of three finalists by the College of Humanities and Social Sciences in the Foundation Award for Scholarship.

Tata Stricko published a chapter in the *Encyclopedia of Political Science* called “Courts and Judicial Decision Making: A Comparative Perspective.” She also has a forthcoming entry in the *Encyclopedia of the Fourth Amendment* published by CQ Press.

Stephen Collins published articles in three academic journals, including the *Taiwan Journal of Democracy*, *The New England Journal of Political Science*, and *Foreign Policy Analysis*. He also delivered three papers, two at the International Studies Association meeting and one at the annual conference of the ISA South.

Susan Raines received a grant from the Center for Educational Leadership and Training in order to study the impact of mediation on social transformation in Israel. She also published articles in three journals, including *The Missouri Journal of Dispute Resolution*, *Human Values and Social Transformation*, and *Family Courts Review*. Two of the articles were co-authored with **Dr. Timothy Hedeem**.

Volker Franke published articles in seven journals, presented research at four academic conferences, and served on the boards of several international studies organizations. In Spring 2010 Dr. Volker was named the Interim Director of KSU’s new Ph.D. program in International Conflict Management.

Charity Butcher delivered a paper at the International Studies Association conference titled “Terrorism and Foreign Intervention in Intrastate Conflict.” She also served as a panel discussant and panel chair for two sections at the ISA meeting. She also served as a panel discussant for the “Politics of Terrorism” at the annual meeting of the GA Political Science Association.

Michele Zebich-Knos announced that the new Master’s program in International Policy Management has been included in the United State government’s Peace Corps Fellows/USA Program.

New Faces

Richard Engstrom studies political geography and political behavior, and teaches courses in American Government, Research Methods and political behavior. He comes to KSU after holding faculty positions at Georgia State and the University of Wyoming, and he earned his PhD in 2001 at Rice University. Dr. Engstrom has published research articles in various scholarly journals such as *Political Research Quarterly*, *The Review of Policy Research*, and *Electoral Studies*. He is also very interested in the scholarship of teaching, and has published articles and book chapters on effective teaching methods in political science.



Charity Butcher joined the Department of Political Science and International Affairs at Kennesaw State University in 2009. Charity received her Ph.D. from Indiana University and has previously taught at Grinnell College in Iowa. Her research interests include international conflict, international rivalries, territorial disputes, the role of ethnicity in conflict, and terrorism. She has published book reviews in *Comparative Political Studies* and *International Studies Review* and has presented numerous papers at regional, national and international conferences.

Volker Franke joined KSU's Department of Political Science and International Affairs as Associate Professor of Conflict Management in the fall of 2009. Prior to coming to KSU, Dr. Franke was Associate Professor of Political Science and International Studies at McDaniel College in Westminster, MD. From 2006-2008, he served as Director of Research at the Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC), one of Germany's premier peace and conflict research and capacity building institutes. Currently, Dr. Franke also serves on the Scientific Advisory Board of the German Foundation of Peace Research. From 1998-2007, he was Director and Managing Editor of the National Security Studies Case Studies Program at Syracuse University.





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Faculty Advisors

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|---------------------------|--|
| High School Model UN | Ms. Linda Morrisson/Mr. Steve McKelvey |
| Model Arab League | Ms. Linda Morrisson |
| Mock Trial | Dr. Elizabeth Gordon/Dr. William Gillespie |
| Pi Sigma Alpha | Dr. Andrew Pieper |
| Society for Legal Studies | Dr. Elizabeth Gordon |
| Political Science Club | Dr. Andrew Pieper |
| College Democrats | Dr. Harold Wingfield |
| College Republicans | Dr. David Shock |
| Model African Union | Dr. Nurudeen Akinyemi |
| Model United Nations | Ms. Linda Morrisson |
| Circle K | Dr. Ulf Zimmermann |
| Common Cause KSU | Dr. Kerwin Swint |