Hi Everyone,

Welcome to the 2014-2015 academic year; I hope it is a great one for all of you. The coming weeks and months are busy ones for us. The Career Fair, Idealist.org Graduate and Volunteer Fair at Drexel, and then the Law and Public Affairs Networking Night are all coming in the next week or so, as is our celebration of Constitution Day, with Dr. Liebell organizing a discussion among our faculty and law alums about some of the most contentious constitutional issues with which the Supreme Court will wrestle in this session, and Dr. Scola’s hosting of the first Washington Center information session. We also are sponsoring a lecture on the role of the Jesuit Refuge Services in crisis (with a returning alum making the presentation) and will be commemorating the 25th anniversary of the fall of communism in Central Europe. Asian Studies is also holding a film series that many of us will find compelling, and the Dean’s Office is marking the 100 years since the outbreak of World War 1 with an upcoming presentation.

Remember: your education is what you make of it. We will help you by giving you advice, support, additional lectures and presentations, and interesting and challenging courses that not only expose you to the issues that you care about but also help you develop the reading, research, analytic, and presentation skills that you need to develop professionally and personally. On that note (finding a rewarding post-graduate future), we’d like to remind you that the Career Development Center (CDC) recommends that you visit its office at least once every semester you are here; truly, finding a rewarding post-graduate position is a process and not an event. In addition, the Department encourages you to engage in volunteer work, student organizations, internships, and study abroad to develop your leadership skills as well as to add to your repertoire of experiences and to complete your Jesuit education. Remember, too, that data shows that employers are looking for candidates with at least one internship experience, and in our Department, you can earn upper division course credit for interning in Philadelphia, Washington, and/or abroad.

This is a special issue of our newsletter, as student authors have written all of the articles, and we’d like to encourage others of you to come forward with ideas for any stories you might like to see. I hope you have a wonderful year, and I encourage you to visit any and all of us on the 2nd floor of Barbelin and to be sure to like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

Wishing you success in AY-14-15,

Dr. Baglione
May Study Tour to Cuba

By: Nick Fortunato ('16)

A lucky group of SJU students who were enrolled in Dr. Richard Gioioso’s POL 337 Contemporary Cuban Politics & Society this past spring had the opportunity to travel to a part of the world that most US citizens never have a chance to see. To the average American, Cuba is a mysterious country just south of us, with which we have a complicated and contentious recent history. After a semester in the classroom, these students spent ten days at the end of May immersing themselves in the culture of Havana and experiencing the rich and vibrant atmosphere that Cuba has to offer.

Catherine McParland, ’16, said, “Prior to taking this course with Dr. Gioioso, I hardly knew anything about Cuba… For the most part, I believe Americans harbor negative feelings towards Cubans, and I expected to be met with similar feelings of distrust upon arrival in Cuba. However, Cubans generally appreciate American tourists and were very friendly.” Dave Ryan, ’17, also commented on how open the Cuban people were towards the group, saying, “I was surprised by the warm welcome we received and the willingness to move forward from our past history. I think the United States can follow Cuba’s lead in that regard.”

When asked about the overall experience, McParland said, “First of all, it was a once-in-a-lifetime experience, since the embargo against Cuba only allows travel to the island for academic purposes. Secondly, we were able to gain firsthand experience of every concept we learned in class. Having the ability to actually talk to local Cubans… was invaluable, and reinforced the constructivist paradigm through which some political scientists are currently viewing the world.”

According to Dr. Gioioso, the trip far exceeded his expectations, as did the level of enthusiasm and engagement by the students, who were dynamic and were truly exceptional ambassadors of both SJU and the U.S. Each and every student made the most of their time in Cuba.

In Gioioso’s opinion, “one of the greatest values of doing a study abroad is the experiential learning that takes place. There is no substitute for interacting with people and participating in cultural activities to gain a better understanding of the complexities and nuances of reality in a place. This is especially important in the case of a country like Cuba, which has a very different political and economic system than in the U.S. So the trip was an enriching time for our students to grow academically, but it was also a special opportunity to grow personally. For some, it was the first time traveling outside the U.S.; for others it was the first time in Latin America or in a developing country.”

(Continued on Page 3)
May Study Tour To Cuba (Continued)

For Ryan, one highlight was a trip to a local market. “We were given the equivalent of a week’s pay for the average Cuban. With that money, totaling about $7, we had to go through the market and buy a week’s worth of food for our pretend Cuban family. That was an incredibly eye-opening activity.”

Both students agree that the SJU participants formed incredible bonds on the study tour. “One of my favorite parts of the trip was the cohesion of the students and faculty advisors in our study tour,” Ryan said. “During the ten days we spent in Havana, we shared political opinions, personal stories, incredible memories, and unending laughter.” McParland chimed in, saying “the friendship that we cultivated in Cuba brought a sense of the spirit of St. Joe’s to our experiences, and I will be forever grateful to have shared this study tour with these twelve people.”

If you didn’t have a chance to participate in this study tour, remember that it will be offered again Spring 2016. Also, CIP offers other study tours and summer courses overseas. Consider one as an excellent way to enhance your understanding.

New Liaison for Washington Internship

The Department is pleased to introduce Dr. Becki Scola as the new Washington Center Internship Liaison. The Washington Internship integrates work experience, academics, and civic engagement to provide for a semester that aids in students’ professional development. According to Dr. Scola, “The Washington Center offers a semester of experiential learning, where students of all majors can go down to live, work, and learn in our nation’s capital.”

Dr. Scola aims to grow the program, so that more students across more majors will participate. “I think that the program itself is a bit misunderstood across campus at this moment in time. Many people think that it’s just for Political Science majors or people interested in politics. It’s actually very expansive, and there are opportunities for all majors, in both colleges, to go to DC. DC is not just our nation’s capital, but in a way, it is a capital of the world. There are major corporations that are headquartered in DC, and so there are plenty of opportunities for business students as well,” said Dr. Scola. The Washington Center offers seven professional tracks: Advocacy, Service, and the Arts, Business and Global Trade, International Affairs, Law and Criminal Justice, Media and Communications, Politics and Public Policy, and Science, Technology, and Society, making the program an excellent opportunity for students of all majors to gain experience in their desired career track.

The Washington Internship provides students with the opportunity to “… get practical experience that they can apply to their future careers. Experiential learning is about having a cohesive program of working, taking classes, and participating in activities that all correspond with one another. Hopefully, they [students] will come back after that experience with not only skills and a few good lines for their resume, but also the understanding that their classes at Saint Joe’s are directly applicable to their future careers as well,” said Dr. Scola.

The Department will be hosting an informational meeting for anyone interested in the Washington Internship on Tuesday, September 23, at 6:00 pm in Bellarmine 216. Additionally, those interested can contact Dr. Becki Scola at bscola@sju.edu, or stop by her office in Barbelin 204.

~ Kristen Harper (*15)
There’s a new abbreviation that SJU students will want to get to know. This spring, after quite a few years of planning, the University Council approved the Justice and Ethics in the Law (JEL) minor. This minor was designed by faculty from a broad spectrum of departments, including management, sociology, philosophy, political science, and history, as well as help from alumni, work-study students, and the dean. A lot of thought and planning went into designing this minor which focuses on ethical, corporate, social, and political structures that underlie the law. But what exactly does this minor entail and what benefit does it have for students? Dr. Liebell, the creator of this minor and the new Pre-Law Advisor sheds some light on why this one-of-a-kind minor is a must-have due to its engagement in both the classroom and the outside community.

How long has this minor been in the works? How much thought and planning went into the curriculum?
I thought up the minor in a department meeting years ago and then worked with faculty from many departments -- management, sociology, philosophy, political science, history -- as well as the dean and an alum of the political science department to create the program. With the help of two work study students, I looked at ALL the minors at other Jesuit institutions. I then created a mandate that was approved by the University Council this Spring. The program is brand new this fall!

What are some examples of material these classes will cover? What are the course requirements?
Courses in the minor emphasize the ethical, corporate, social and political structures that underlie the law. This interdisciplinary minor examines how justice is defined in legal regimes, both nationally and globally, as well as the ethical issues raised by legal procedures, conflicting rights, and the making — and maintaining — of constitutions. Students take courses in legal reasoning and ethics, offered in both the Haub School of Business and the College of Arts and Sciences. The self-designed nature of the program allows students to integrate issues of justice into their major area of study. The minor encourages students to develop a commitment to serving others and promoting justice as they reflect on issues of law and ethics in their coursework. The program complements the University’s mission of engaged citizenship as well as its commitment to serving the community outside of the classroom. Experiential learning courses are available through the Service-Learning and the Inside-Out Prison Exchange programs, as well as internships that deal with law, ethics and justice in a variety of disciplines.

This semester, we had 13 courses offered from Management, Accounting, English, History, Philosophy, Political Science, Sociology, and Theology! They ranged from the Inside/Out course (a course taken with prison inmates) to Crime and Punishment in History. Many students take the Philadelphia Area Internship -- working in justice, ethics, and the law -- as part of the minor.

How does this minor benefit students/enrich their academic experience?
First, students can engage with the subject of justice and ethics in the law with faculty from across the University -- some of the most interesting faculty we have. Second, they gain a set of skills (writing, analytic thinking) that are good for all professions but especially critical for those interested in studying law. Last, for students who think they might want a profession in the law, we have experiential learning, courses that help with preparing for the LSAT, and classes that expose undergraduates to ideas and skills necessary to be a great law student or lawyer/judge.

What does the Self Design aspect of the minor mean/entail?
Students must take two course courses in legal reasoning -- one in Haub and the other in CAS -- but the other four courses can be tailored to the needs and interests of the individual. You can use them to fulfill the GEP (and have a coherent concentration in addition to fulfilling general education requirements). You can use them to dive deep into something that REALLY interests YOU.

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Q&A on JEL (Continued)

This minor, through its incorporation of diversity, as exemplified through classes offered in both Haub and CAS, community service, and self-design nature of study, gives the students a minor that is more suited to their personal interests and thus enriches their academic experience. Furthermore, the opportunities for both community service and test prep are at the students’ disposal to better prepare them for whatever career they choose to pursue in the future.

If you are interested in this minor, have any thoughts, comments or concerns, need pre-law advising, or are looking to find an internship, check out the websites listed below or stop by Dr. Liebell’s office in Barbelin 208 on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 2-4!

Faculty Website: http://www.sju.edu/about-sju/faculty-staff/susan-p-liebell-phd
Internship: http://www.sju.edu/academics/cas/politicalscience/Internships.html
Pre-Law: http://www.sju.edu/int/studentlife/studentresources/careers/resources/lawschool.html

~ Danielle Pell ('15)

Law And Public Affairs Networking Night

On Wednesday, October 1st the Career Development Center will be hosting its second annual Law and Public Affairs Networking Night. Last year’s event provided students with the opportunity to gain beneficial insight in speaking with alumni working in fields of their interest, and students found the event to be an enriching, rewarding experience.

This year, more than thirty alumni have already agreed to participate. In attendance from the legal profession will be attorneys in private firms of various sizes and with various specialties, Assistant District Attorneys, public defenders, and paralegals. Among those working in public affairs will be high-level staffers for elected officials at the federal, state, and local levels, professionals in the area of public relations, political communications, and journalism, and officials working in different parts of the US government bureaucracy. Additionally, there will be professionals working in education, management consulting, refugee services, and much more.

The Networking Night provides a great opportunity for students to engage in meaningful conversations with professionals who work in fields of their interest. Students will be able to seek insight and advice to help prepare for their future careers and speak to alumni about opportunities in their field, as well as ask them questions about their own career development journeys.

Last year, the Career Development Center staff knew exactly how to break the ice and encourage student-alumni interaction. According to Caley Rolt ('16), this “was a new experience for me [because it] was all networking, talking, asking questions and more. I found that I really enjoyed it, especially because everyone who came to the event wanted to be there, wanted to talk to me, and wanted to answer questions.”

The Law and Public Affairs Networking Night will be held in Doyle Banquet Hall in Campion on October 1st, from 5:30-7:00pm. Students must RSVP on SJU/Careers, and professional dress is recommended. All majors are encouraged to attend. Juniors and seniors should not miss this event!

~ Kristen Harper (‘15)
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| 09/18/14    | PO-203 3:30 – 4:45 | **Guest Speaker John Baer**  
(POL-322: Joe Powers’ Class)  
John is the political columnist for the Daily News and has written a widely quoted book about Pa. politics. He is referred to as the dean of Pa. political reporters. |
| 09/23/14    | Webinar 12:00 – 1:00 | **To Travel or Not To Travel: U.S.-Cuba Foreign Policy, the Embargo, and American “Tourism” to Cuba**, by Richard N. Gioioso, Assistant Professor of Political Science, Kevin Barrow ’15 (Political Science/Economics) and Julia Burke ’15 (Spanish/Linguistics). Click [here](https://example.com) for more information and to sign up. |
| 09/23/14    | BE-216 6:00 pm | **The Washington Center (TWC) Internship Program Info Night**. A representative from TWC will be here to discuss opportunities for students to study and intern for a semester in Washington, D.C. All are welcome and refreshments served. Please contact Dr. Becki Scola ([bscola@siu.edu](mailto:bscola@siu.edu)) for more information. |
| 09/25/14    | North Lounge 11:00 – 12:15 | **Constitution Day Celebration**. Faculty and law and policy alumni will engage the audience with a roundtable and discussion to consider the most important cases in the last Supreme Court session. Topics will include affirmative action, public prayer, and whether Hobby Lobby can restrict health care for women. Participants include: Dr. Robert Moore, Sociology; Dr. William McDevitt, Management; Sister Linehan, Philosophy; Diana Silva, Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox, LLP; Dennis Feldman, Ceisler Media and Issue Advocacy; and Brian Kisielewski, Post Trial Unit in the First Judicial District of Pennsylvania and Dr. Susan Liebell, Political Science. |
| 09/25/14    | PO-203 3:30 – 4:45 | **Guest Speaker Representative Tim Briggs**  
(POL-322: Joe Powers’ Class)  
Tim represents a district in Montgomery Co. close to the St. Joe's campus. More importantly for the Campaigns and Elections class, he is the current chair of the House Democratic Campaign Committee. Tim will explain legislative and congressional caucus programs, how they are run, how they select targeted races, and how those decisions can sometimes determine whether political careers are ended or extended. |
| 10/01/14    | North Lounge 1:30 – 2:15 | **Sean Kelly, Program Officer**, Jesuit Refugee Service USA  
Crisis & Response: Jesuit Refugee Service’s Accompaniment of Displaced People in Syria and Kenya |
| 10/30/14    | PO-203 3:30 – 4:45 | **Guest Speaker Berwood (Bub) Yost**  
(POL-322: Joe Powers Class)  
Bub is the other half of the Madonna /Yost team that polls for Franklin and Marshall. Bub is the technical expert. He specifically asked for the Oct. 30th class because it is the day before the last poll of the gubernatorial campaign is released and our students will be able to learn of the results before others read about it the next day. |
| 11/13/14    | Presidents’ Lounge 11:00 - 12:15 | **“The Fall of the Berlin Wall: 1989 in Historical & Contemporary Perspective”**  
Drs. Tom Buckley (GRM), Erik Huneke (HIS), Melissa Chakars (HIS), Lisa Baglione (POL) |