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"Let's Talk Politics" Lecture

Entry in Photo Contest

Summer interns in DC

ASU SCHOOL OF POLITICS
AND GLOBAL STUDIES
ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

**2015
Newsletter**



Letter from the Director

Dear Friends,

In 2015 we continued to execute the School's mission to generate and diffuse knowledge that contributes to society's understanding of politics and governance at local, national and global levels.

In our efforts to provide students with a greater base of knowledge, The School of Politics and Global Studies has partnered with the American Indian Studies Program to create the [American Indian Nation Governance Certificate](#).

The School has also worked on bridging the gap between alumni and students with career panels, guest speakers and tailgate mixers. These initiatives will continue with the launching of a [Distinguished Alumni Speaker Series](#) that will host at least one speaker per year.



Our faculty have remained very active in 2014 as well. Through the generous gift from Alumnus Brian Kopf, SPGS was able to host two Conferences in 2015. In the spring we hosted the Ethnic and Religious Conflict Conference which our faculty working group "NERD" organized. Then, this past fall, we hosted a conference titled, "[How does Gender Shape Violence and Coercion?](#)".

The School has also hosted events to enrich the college experience for our majors such as Night of

the Open Door, Fall Welcome and Homecoming. As we reflect on another successful year at the School of Politics and Global Studies, we want to thank you for your continued support and involvement. We hope that this newsletter and the stories it contains reaches you well.

Sincerely,
Dr. Cameron G. Thies

Director of the School of Politics and Global Studies



Plans for the Future

The School of Politics and Global Studies is looking forward to another great year in 2016. There will be a continued effort to develop innovative approaches to major emerging challenges based on transdisciplinary perspectives to the greatest extent possible.

The School of Politics and Global Studies plans to expand its academic offerings by proposing a Political Economy Undergraduate Degree. This joint degree with the Department of Economics would also allow students seeking a Political Science (BS) degree to complete a concentration in Political Economy.

In February, the School will host a conference titled "Symbolic Representation: Groups and Representation in Contemporary Democratic Politics". This conference will highlight work by SPGS faculty members Kim Fridkin, Miki Kittilson and Magda Hinojosa. The *journal Politics, Groups, and Identities* has agreed to a research symposium featuring some of the papers from the conference.

This spring the School of Politics and Global Studies will also hold the inaugural Kramer Lecture where an expert on national elections will provide a public lecture and meet with students. This lecture series was made possible by an endowment from Victor Kramer.

ASU will host two new Barry Goldwater Chairs this year: [John Dean](#) and Professor of Politics Morris Fiorina. Holders of the chair are scholars who have distinguished themselves in the fields of political science, history, economics, law and public policy.

John Dean will be using his experience as Counsel to the President of the United States during the days of the Nixon White House to teach a course in the spring titled "Understanding the Watergate Scandal".

In April, there will be a conference that will focus on themes resonating with Professor Fiorina's work in American politics. Invited scholars will present papers during the day, leaving time for extensive discussion afterwards.

Many of the School's initiatives would not be possible without the help of donors and alumni. If you would like be a part of the growth of SPGS, please visit the [SPGS Invest page](#) to learn how you can help!



Event Recap

It was another banner year of events for the School of Politics and Global Studies. Whether it was an alumni dinner, a guest lecturer or Fall Welcome, SPGS strived to provide the best experience possible.



In the spring each year ASU opens up its campus for the Night of the Open Door. In 2015 SPGS welcomed students and families to the 6th floor of the Coor building to learn more about The School. Kids were able to partake in globally themed arts and crafts, vote on their favorite Frozen character and test their trivia knowledge all while listening to live music. [We invite you to join us next year for Night of the Open Door on February 27th, 2016.](#)

SPGS has worked closely with the Alumni Association to put on two career panels in 2015. These events bring back various alumni from diverse backgrounds to share their experiences with students. The panels have consisted of established professionals in international business, non-profit, politics, teaching and more. If you have interest in participating in an SPGS Career Panel, please reach out to Gisela Grant at gisela.grant@asu.edu.

The School of Politics and Global Studies has joined ASU in honoring its military veterans in our Salute to Service events. Leading up to Veterans Day, SPGS held a Veteran Alumni Talk in Dr. Charles Ripley's Professional Career Development class. Army veteran and SPGS alumnus, Corey Harris was able to share his experiences in working on staff for Congressman Ruben Gallego and his contribution to passing and implementing the Post 9-11 GI Bill.

Also during Salute to Service Week, The School was able to join the Alumni Association at Sparky's Touchdown Tailgate. The tailgate was held on historic Old Main Lawn featuring food, drinks, music, lawn entertainment and plenty of maroon and gold. SPGS alumni were able to network with one another as well as Associate Director, Dr. Richard Herrera.

The School participated in the festivities for this year's homecoming as well. SPGS had a booth of activities just off of University Drive that welcomed students, alumni and families. Guests of all ages were able to test their knowledge with our trivia on politics and global events. They were also able to practice the electoral processes by voting on their favorite character from the movie Inside Out. Visitors got to see the world from the eyes of our students as our yearly photo contest winners were proudly on display.



The School of Politics and Global Studies looks forward to another great year of events in 2016. You can stay up to date with the news and events of our school by going to our dedicated [webpage](#).



Get Involved Invest/Support

The School of Politics and Global Studies encourages all of our alumni to remain [involved in our School community](#). One way to be a part of the growth of the School is to participate as a guest speaker at various events or classes. This helps provide students with real world examples of life after graduation.

SPGS is pleased to announce the launching of a [Distinguished Alumni Speaker Series](#) that will host at least one speaker per year. The series will serve a variety of goals, including honoring outstanding alumni for their accomplishments, raising the visibility of SPGS to both internal and external audiences, educating undergraduate and graduate students about career possibilities associated with our degrees, and learning from honorees about ways we might improve our degree programs.



Alumni have also been an integral part of the School through their investments in student success. Through your support, SPGS has been able to assist students in professional development, provide internships, study abroad opportunities and research positions. As we have welcomed more students into our School community, we have continued to grow and adapt to meet their needs.

Please consider supporting our students by investing in a program, scholarship or general fund. Any contribution is helpful as we aim to help each student reach their full potential. To learn more about becoming more involved in the School of Politics and Global Studies or to make a donation, please visit our [invest page](#).



Thank You!

Thank you for taking the time to read the SPGS Annual E-Newsletter. If you would like to read the entire newsletter, please [click here](#). The School of Politics and Global Studies wishes you a wonderful 2016!

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The School of Politics and Global Studies is an academic unit of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

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