

Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice

Weekly Newsletter: November 2 – November 6, 2009

Student Internships

Washington Center Internship – Tuesday, November 10, 2009, Senior Vice President, Joe Johnston will be speaking briefly (5-7 minutes) in various political science classes about the internship opportunities available through the Washington Center. Later in the afternoon, he will provide more detailed information on the opportunities and available funding. He will provide details on the \$6,000 that will be available to students on an individual basis to assist in covering the internship cost. The tentative time for this information session will be 3:15 – 4:15. This internship is **open to all majors** and has placements in federal agencies and nonprofits in the Washington, D.C. area.

Henry Clay Internship - The Kentucky Society of Washington is again sponsoring the Henry Clay Internship in Public Policy. This highly competitive program provides a six to eight week summer **internship in Washington, DC** for a qualified rising junior or senior from Kentucky and attending a Kentucky college or university.

The students selected for the program will be placed in an office of a member of the Kentucky congressional delegation or an agency of the executive branch. The students will receive a \$3,000 stipend to defray living expenses while in the nation's capital.

The deadline for applications is December 10, 2009. Applications and more information about the internship can be found at www.kentuckysociety.org.

Please contact Rick Curtsinger, Henry Clay Intern Coordinator, at rcurtsinger@hotmail.com or 502-693-7465 with any questions about the application process or program.

Student Opportunities

Kentucky Professional Investigators Association's fall seminar in Elizabethtown, KY is on November 12-13. The organization is made up of private investigators throughout OH and KY. They allow for students to join at a discounted fee. The organization serves as a great networking opportunity and provides education beyond the classroom. A current student joined the group last October and it immediately led to their current job as a private investigator for Marshall and Associates.

Their website is www.kpia.org and it has all the details on how to join and information about the seminar.

Presented by the Northern Kentucky Forum, Tony Sholar, a veteran lobbyist, will share an insider's view of how to bring your cause to the attention of those who control policy and spending. He'll then join a panel of other experts and two Northern Kentucky legislators, Reps. Sal Santoro and Arnold Simpson, for a dialogue on how to have an impact. Located in the NKU Student Union Ballroom; free admission; **November 12th, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.**

Student Organizations

Peppered Grits: Black Students Negotiating Race, Place and Personhood on a Predominately White Campus. By Dr. Denise Taliferro Baszile, Assistant Professor of Curriculum Theory Department of Educational Leadership at Miami University. November 10, 2009; 12:15 PM to 1:30 PM located in the Student Union, 107A. For more information, please contact the Office of African American Student Affairs at griffinm3@nku.edu or x5214

Phi Alpha Delta presents, *The Election of Judges.* Should judges make the law or follow the law? Does anyone really know what that means? Judge Christopher Mehling, Kenton County Circuit Court, will speak on this matter. UC 270 (Otto Budig Theater) on Thursday November 12 at 4:30 pm. For additional information contact Professor Bruce McClure at mclureb@nku.edu

Employment

Intensive Case Manager - Department of Corrections and Mental Health America of NKY

This is an excellent full time position with benefits. The Intensive Case Manager will work with women that are incarcerated prior to release and upon release to provide the much needed stability from prison to the Northern Kentucky community. Coordinating services with the various community agencies and linking people to the most appropriate service; education and treatment options that help individuals re-enter the community and stay well are key. **Please see attached flyer for additional details!**

Staff Assistant -The Office of Congressman Geoff Davis

Description: The Office of Congressman Geoff Davis is seeking a dedicated individual to join its hard-working team as a Staff Assistant working in our Ft. Mitchell District Office. Starting salary is \$26,000 per year.

General requirements include: The person in this position should be well-organized and detail-oriented and possess excellent communication and people skills. Candidates must be positive, motivated, organized and professional while maintaining a sense of humor. The successful candidate will also demonstrate a strong work ethic, team-oriented attitude and desire to learn new things.

The Staff Assistant is responsible for interacting with constituents in a wide array of situations and must always maintain a courteous and friendly demeanor. Also, the Staff Assistant is tasked with managing many responsibilities at once and must be adept at multi-tasking while maintaining

attention to detail.

Typical tasks associated with the Staff Assistant position include:

- § Processing incoming and outgoing mail;
- § Drafting of correspondence for the Congressman;
- § Answering phones and interacting with constituents;
- § Assisting in the management of intern and leadership programs;
- § Oversight of office supplies and logistics;
- § Management of district outreach database; and
- § Handling some constituent casework.

Opportunities for expanded responsibility exist within the organization based on performance and attitude.

Application Requirements: Interested applicants should submit cover letter, resume and list of references with subject line: Attn: Staff Assistant. Via email to JobsKy04@gmail.com

Students on the Move!

Glenn Laws will be a graduate of the Master of Public Administration program this December and was selected to speak at the commencement ceremony. Glenn was nominated and selected out of nominations from 31 programs in the College of Arts and Sciences. Here is what he had to say about his experience and the benefits of receiving his MPA.

Why did you pursue a master's degree in public administration?

It seemed like it would be good knowledge for me to have since I am an officer in the US Army Reserve. Officers are the management end of the military and I wanted to improve my administrative skills to enable me to better take care of the soldiers that report to me. Education also helps one move up the ranks quicker; all officers are required to have a bachelor's degree. So furthering my education will make me more marketable for promotion. Additionally, I wanted to begin a career in the government sector. I chose government due to my experience in the military and my interest in political science, which I hold a B.A. I feel that serving the public at any level is a noble cause, and I think it is made up of people that are genuinely concerned about the welfare of the greater public.

What are your long term goals?

County Administrator or Director of a local Homeland Security Department, and attain the rank of Colonel (one rank below General) in the Army Reserves.

What was the process for selecting a graduation speaker?

Each year the honor is rotated to a different college on campus. This year it was the College of Arts and Sciences turn to select a student from one of its programs. Dr. Sam Zachary, the interim dean for the college, received a nomination from each program (4 Master's programs in our college, 27 undergraduate). He then interviewed the nominees and made his selections, one for the graduate commencement and one for the undergraduates.

What was your reaction?

I was thrilled when I was contacted by his office, stating that I had been nominated by my department. Although I didn't really think that I would be selected, knowing that I was competing

against all the other programs. Needless to say I was pleasantly surprised when I was chosen for the honor.

What message do you hope to impart to fellow graduates?

I hope they take three things from my address: 1) To stay connected with their programs so they can stay current with changes in their field; 2) To keep continuing their education even after they graduate; 3) To foster a sense of civic engagement and get involved as much as possible, government is tied to all things and it is up to the public to shape the government.

How would you sum up your graduate experience?

In one word: Engaging. I did more than just attend class. I held numerous internships, got involved with real world projects, and became a member of a professional organization. All of these things enhanced the educational process and exposed me to the practice of public administration, opposed to just the theory of it that was taught in class.

Any advice for students considering graduate school?

Don't wait. Seek out education, continue to develop your knowledge, and continue to hone your skills in your area of interest. Also, get involved in your field. During my studies in undergrad I did not do this, but in grad school I did and as a result I have further developed my knowledge in the area and have made numerous contacts in the field that may be beneficial as I begin a career.