

Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice

Weekly Newsletter: September 14 – September 18, 2009

We hope everyone is off to a great start this semester! Remember if you ever need assistance with anything don't hesitate to contact me at millisorj1@nku.edu or 859.572.5526. You can also stop by my office located in Founders Hall (FH) 427J. If you have any program related community or campus events that you would like us to consider for the newsletter please feel free to email them to me, Prof. Millisor at millisorj1@nku.edu.

Remembering Cameron Draper

Cameron Draper, a 2009 NKU graduate, passed away this summer due to Duchene muscular dystrophy. To honor Cameron, the Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice is establishing an annual book award in his name. We are working with his parents who will present the award at the department's spring awards banquet. To do this we need your support. Every dollar will help us meet our goal of paying tribute to Cameron and his fervent belief in the importance of education. Students may contribute donations to any political science or criminal justice faculty member. Donations of any amount will be gratefully accepted. We've posted this information along with "remembering Cameron" photos and passages in the front display case.

Graduation Paperwork Deadlines

The graduation deadline is October 8th for those who anticipate on graduating in spring 2010. All information about graduation paperwork is located at: <http://registrar.nku.edu/students/graduation.php>. At this site you will find the undergraduate checklist, undergraduate application for degree candidacy, and the program certification forms among other valuable graduation information. Program certification forms must be completed by the student and then dropped off to be reviewed and signed by the chair of the department prior to October 1. Forms can be given to Prof. Millisor located in Founders Hall 427J. If you have any questions contact Prof. Millisor at millisorj1@nku.edu or 859.572.5526.

Student Opportunities

Government Day for Leadership Cincinnati. October 8, 2009. Discussion about the structure and challenges of government in Greater Cincinnati with this year's class for 52 civic, business and social service leaders. There is room for 30 NKU students to attend part of this day. Confirmed closing speaker will be Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson, who led his city through a city-county merger in 2003. The Mayor will speak generally about leadership and regionalism, and tell the story of the new governance model for Louisville/Jefferson County. This will be at 3:30 p.m. on October 8 at the Carnegie Arts Center in Covington. If you are interested in attending email Dr. Kunselman as soon as possible kunselmanj1@nku.edu

Posters-at-the Capitol. Thursday, January 28, 2010 at the State Capitol in Frankfort. This is an opportunity for undergraduate students from all disciplines to display the results of their research, scholarly, and creative work in the Capitol at the time when the legislators are there to view them. Students and their faculty sponsors who have participated in this event in the past have found it to be very interesting and rewarding. While the event is restricted to a poster presentation, the students will stand at their posters to discuss their work, so work that has generally been considered appropriate for oral presentation can be presented here as well.

Registration deadline is for your project is **October 21, 2009**. Registration is on-line via <http://campus.murraystate.edu/services/URSA/>. Select the tab "Posters-at-the-Capitol." There is a limited number of spaces (~12 for each university), so a committee will review the proposals. In case there are more outstanding posters than the allotted number of slots, the committee will allocate slots in the order in which the abstracts were received. So even though the abstract deadline is October 21, it is to your advantage to register as soon as possible. **Please remember to establish a faculty sponsor for this event prior to registering.**

Daisy Alliance Student Scholarship/Essay Contest This year's topic is "The Role of NATO in the 21st Century." Details on submission requirements and prizes may be found at the www.daisyalliance.org website under Student Scholarship.

Student Organizations

Xi Omega, the local chapter of the National Political Science Honor Society Pi Sigma Alpha, will hold its first meeting Tuesday, September 22 at 3:05 in FH 447. Xi Omega is open to Political Science or International Studies majors and minors who meet and maintain the minimum requirements. To become a member, you must meet the following criteria:

- Maintain a minimum 3.00 GPA as a Political Science or International Studies major or minor
- Completed at least 10 credit hours of Political Science credits
- Maintain a minimum overall GPA of at least 3.0

For more information, visit their website at <http://www.sallymundo.com/kimberly/pi/xiomega.html> or contact Dr. Kimberly Weir at weirk@nku.edu.

Lambda Alpha Epsilon Reminders!

1. Voting for office positions will run until Friday, September 14.
2. The following positions will be voted on: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Sgt. At Arms.
3. If you are running for an office or plan on voting, your dues must be paid no later than Friday, September 18th. Please make a check or money order payable to: Lambda Alpha Epsilon and along with your LAE application return it to Prof. Jill Shelley in Founders Hall 445. If she is not in her office, please secure it in an envelope and slip it under the door.

4. For this semester, we will be meeting bi-monthly both on the first Thursday at 4:20pm and the second Wednesday of the month at 3:00pm so that everyone will have the opportunity to get together. You need not attend both days.
5. We decided to create three groups so that members can prepare for competitions both regionally and nationally. They are: Crime Scene Investigations/Forensics; Firearms; and Physical Agility. Prof. Shelley will need members to "step-up" and volunteer to head up these groups.

If you have questions or would like additional information about Lambda Alpha Epsilon contact Prof. Jill Shelly at shelleyj@nku.edu

Take a look at the benefits of being an Alpha Phi Sigma member (National Criminal Justice Honor Society) double click the icon below.



Alpha Phi Sigma

Phi Alpha Delta (PAD) the Pre Law Chapter is sponsoring two upcoming Law School Symposiums. At these gatherings, the law schools will have representatives from Admissions who will field any question students may have and address a variety of issues that students need to consider while applying to law schools.

The Kentucky Law School Symposium

University of Kentucky College of Law
University of Louisville (Brandeis)
Salmon P. Chase College of Law
September 30, 2009 in Landrum 509 at 12 noon.

The Ohio Law School Symposium

The Ohio State College of Law
Capital College of Law
University of Cincinnati College of Law
October 8, 2009 in Nunn Hall 404 at 1:00 pm

New Faculty

Dr. George Coroian is an assistant professor in the Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice. He earned his Ph.D. in Criminology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, his Juris Doctor degree from Ohio Northern University, and his Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Coroian is as a licensed attorney, as has law enforcement experience in both the public and private sectors. He has served as a judicial law clerk for various administrative and appellate Judges in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and has previously taught in both the Kent State University and Indiana University of Pennsylvania systems of higher education. Dr. Coroian's specialization and research interests are in the areas of policing, law, and computer and cyber crime.

Dr. Coroian enjoys working with both traditional and non-traditional students. Like the saying goes, it is never too late to be what you want to be. So, he enjoys seeing people from all walks of life bettering themselves through education. Sometimes being afraid is part of the process in becoming what you want to be but, in the immortal words of John Wayne, "Courage is being scared to death but saddling up anyway."

Q and A with Dr. Coroian

Why did you pursue a PhD in Criminal Justice?

I never really intended to be a teacher, much less pursue a Ph.D. I was a practicing attorney, mostly defense litigation, and a former colleague of mine asked me to teach as adjunct faculty at another university. I initially declined his offer, but he was persistent. Once I began to observe students experience their "Eureka" moments, I knew this was what I was meant to do with my life. So, I pursued my Ph.D. and criminal justice was the natural field as I am a former law enforcement officer and I believe the field of criminal justice touches all of our lives.

How have your background and life experiences influenced your teaching?

I believe that my background and life experience allows me to help the material come alive for the students. I have been in those situations, or I have seen people in those situations, or I have known people in those situations. Therefore, I am able to give students a behind-the-scenes look at certain topics that, hopefully, takes them beyond the pages in the books.

What excites you most about teaching?

The "Eureka" moments. This is what I call the looks on students' faces when I am able to help them understand a difficult topic or concept. Once they get over whatever roadblock was stopping them from learning, they get a certain euphoric look on their faces, and are then able to own the material instead of simply repeating it back on an examination.

Who has been most influential in your career?

It is a combination of people. Each contributed in their own way, either as a good role model or a bad one. All of the people that influenced me each left an indelible mark. I will certainly never forget them, or the lessons I learned from them.