

POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

A NEWSLETTER OF THE OWU POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT

Issue Twenty-two

Editor: Sarah Mattick '19

May 2019

MOCK CONVENTION 2020

Advisor: Ashley Biser

Dr. Biser and the PG Department are gearing up for Mock Convention 2020. A long standing Ohio Wesleyan tradition that started in 1884, this will be the 26th Mock Convention at OWU. Keeping with tradition, the 2020 Mock Convention will be a simulation of the Democratic National Convention, and will be held on February 21st through February 22nd. Dr. Biser is currently working to form the Executive Committee from the student body, which



Dr. William Louthan (2016)

will plan the Convention. She held one informational meeting, which grew into two more due to the amount of interest from students and is hoping that interest in the upcoming election will translate into an exciting convention. As in the past, Mock Convention combines rousing debate, political education, and merriment. At the 2012 Mock Convention, famed comedian and political satirist, Stephen Colbert made it to the Vice-Presidential ballot and in 2016 former wrestler Jon Cena was nominated for Vice-President. Ultimately, Nikki Hayley was voted as the Vice-Presidential nominee with Ohio's own, Governor John Kasich, as the Mock Convention Presidential nominee. Though student predictions are often incorrect, Mock Convention is still one of the most politically engaging events the Politics & Government Department has to offer to campus. The 2016 Mock Convention Executive Director and current Board of Trustee member, **Emma Drongowski ('16)**, has written a letter detailing her experience leading Mock Convention which, you can find in this newsletter. Emma currently

works at GreenLight Fund, a non-profit, as Program Associate in Cincinnati, Ohio. Professor Biser is also working to create an Alumni Delegation, so if you are interested please email mock2020@owu.edu.



Elliott Hall

George Meader Bequest

The department gratefully acknowledges that this newsletter is made possible through the financial support received from a bequest by a former Ohio Wesleyan student, George Meader, who attended from 1923-1925. Meader was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from a southeastern Michigan district from 1951-1965. He received his law degree from the University of Michigan in 1931. Prior to serving in Congress, he had a private law practice in Ann Arbor, served as a county prosecutor, and as counsel to the U.S. Senate special committee investigating the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. He served as counsel to congressional committees and resumed the private practice of law after leaving the Congress.



Mock 2008



Mock 1988



Mock 2004



Mock 1988



Mock 2000



Mock 1980

Inside this issue:

<i>Mock Convention</i>	1
<i>Faculty Updates</i>	2-3
<i>Clubs & Organizations</i>	3
<i>A Letter from Alumnae</i>	3
<i>Alumni Updates</i>	4-5
<i>2018-2019 Lectures</i>	5
<i>Awards</i>	6
<i>Pi Sigma Alpha</i>	6

A Letter from Emma Drongowski ('16)



Beginning in 1920 every four years, students, professors, staff, alumni, administrators, and community members gather to participate in Mock Convention at Ohio Wesleyan. Mimicking a real

political party's national nominating convention, hundreds of people gather to hold platform hearings, draft and debate a party platform, and nominate candidates to run for president and vice president. My own experience with Mock Convention began before I even had even committed to OWU as a student. On a cold and snowy day in early 2012, my mom and I schlepped to campus for a prospective student visiting day. I entered Grey Chapel to see the massively impressive set for Mock Convention that had just been held on campus. Professor Joan McLean, a former advisor for the event, shared with us the drama and spectacle that had happened just a few days before. As a student hailing from a small, very homogenous, and extremely partisan hometown, the idea of so publicly engaging in debate and being able to share my true political ideas was intriguing and just the right amount of radical for my 17-year old self. I turned to my mom and whispered "I think is where I might want to go to college."

I would go on to make the best decision of my life by enrolling at Ohio Wesleyan that Fall, spending four years

learning from incredible professors in the Politics and Government Department, and finally as my university experience came to a close, have the opportunity to serve as Executive Director of Mock Convention 2016. The event is one that brings the entire campus community together, bringing out the most dedicated politicians as well as those who have no partisan affiliation or interest. It is an opportunity to engage in serious (and occasionally not so serious) debate with those that you wholly agree with and those that you firmly do not. It is the perfect embodiment of experiential learning, a way for students to participate and grapple with the things they have been learning in the classroom. It is an opportunity to let us all get a little closer to the action in what is sure to be one of the most interesting years in politics in my lifetime.

Mock Convention is an opportunity that students only get to experience once. Happening every four years, students usually only get one shot at this amazing two-day convention—but we are asking you to give it a second shot. We will be having an alumni delegation participate in OWU Mock Convention 2020—I hope you will join me in returning to campus and help students to engage in our political process and learn more about becoming active citizens in our world (and maybe help OWU to once again correctly predict the nominees for President and Vice President)!

I hope to see you there,

Emma Drongowski '16
Ohio Wesleyan Board of Trustees
Executive Director Mock Convention 2016

Faculty Updates



Ashley Biser specializes in Political Theory. Professor Biser has been appointed Associate Dean for Curriculum in addition to her teaching position in Politics and Government. Biser will be directing Mock Convention in the coming year.
Contact: anbiser@owu.edu



Ji Young Choi specializes in International Politics and Comparative Politics. He is Director of East Asian Studies and the advisor of the Model United Nations Club. Dr. Choi's article, "The Rise of East Asian Economies, Globalization, and State Policies" was published in *The Global Studies Journal* (Vol. 11, Issue 2) in 2018. In May, he had a studio interview about the Inter-Korean Summit with Ann Fisher on NPR's "All Sides." In June, Dr. Choi also had a phone interview with Voice of America on the prospect of U.S.-North Korea Summit. That same month, Dr. Choi returned to "All Sides" to discuss the U.S.-North Korea Summit. Prof. Choi presented "North-South Dynamics and Inter-Korean Rapprochement" at a workshop hosted by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau

of Research and Intelligence in D.C. He was invited by the War and Peace program at Ohio University as a guest speaker and presented "Historical and Theoretical Views on the Rise of China in March. Contact: [jychoi@owu.edu](mailto: jychoi@owu.edu)



Michael Esler is McKendree Professor of Politics and Government and specializes in teaching Public Law. He is Director of the Arneson Institute for Practical Politics and Public Affairs, including the Wesleyan in Washington Internship Program, Advisor for Pre-Law Studies and the Pre-Law Club, and is

Coach of OWU's Moot Court Teams.
Contact: mvesler@owu.edu.



James Franklin, Chair, specializes in Comparative Politics and Research Methods. Prof. Jim Franklin spent his fall sabbatical updating classes and working on a new data project on protest waves around the world. He will present some of this research at a conference in April. He also has a chapter entitled "Protest Waves and Authoritarian Regimes: Repression and Protest Outcomes" that is in the newly published book *Social Movements, Nonviolent Resistance and the State*. Contact: jcfrankl@owu.edu.

Faculty Updates (Cont.)



Sean Kay specializes in International Politics and Comparative Politics. He is the director of the International Studies Program and is the liaison to the Great Lakes College Association. Prof. Kay has been further developing his new course on Environmental Politics and Policy, which includes a new research project on major river basin conservation. Currently working on the Upper Colorado River Basin, he plans to expand this work to include major international river systems as well. In November 2018, his book *Rockin' the Free World! How the Rock and Roll Revolution Changed America and the World* was re-released to include major updates and a new Afterword covering rock and roll in the current era of American and international politics. In early 2019, he presented at a major conference on "What is Realist Foreign Policy" at the Mershon Center for International Security Studies. He presented "21st Century Realism and the Transatlantic Security Relationship" alongside some of the most prominent political scientists in America, including Robert Jervis. Contact: sikay@owu.edu.



William Louthan specializes in the areas of public law and constitutional jurisprudence; he will be teaching Constitutional Law this Fall. Dr. Louthan also assists Dr. Esler with both the Moot Court Program and the Wesleyan in Washington Program. After five years of

Professor Emeritus Carl Pinkele



Professor Carl F. Pinkele passed away unexpectedly in May, 2018, at the age of 77. Dr. Pinkele arrived at Ohio Wesleyan in 1976 and retired after 34 years in 2010 as the Honorable Charles W. Fairbanks Professor of Politics and Government.

He taught classes in American politics, comparative politics, racial politics, environmental politics, and political theory. During his time at Ohio Wesleyan, Dr. Pinkele served as chair of the department and was Director of the Arneson Institute for Practical Politics and Public Affairs for over two decades. He created the Wesleyan in Washington Program and as Director of the Arneson Institute, he hosted a series of lectures and roundtables on political issues featuring leading figures from academia, journalism, and government. Professor Pinkele had a knack for seeing the hidden potential in students, helping many to achieve more than they thought possible. He helped find internships for students, allowing them to put their talents and interests to use. These internships became stepping stones to careers for many. Professor Pinkele also directly assisted numerous students to find jobs in various areas of practical politics. He was known as a demanding professor, but his sense of humor was legendary with students and faculty alike. Dr. Pinkele will be remembered for his defense of faculty governance and academic freedom.

writing he is close to finishing his sixth book, which is a study of the Supreme Court and Social Change entitled *Philosopher Kings and Relay Races*. Contact: wcloutha@owu.edu.



Brianna Mack specializes in American Politics, Voting and Elections, Mass Media, Political Parties, and Interest Groups. She appeared on NBC4-Columbus in October 2018 and provided commentary on the second Ohio Senate debate between Dem. Sherrod Brown and challenger Jim Renacci. In December 2018, she appeared on the 10TV show "Face the State" and talked about how national policies would affect Ohio residents. Contact: bnmack@owu.edu.



Franchesca Nestor specializes in the areas of the presidency, Congress, public policy, and equity. She also serves as the advisor for the Pre-Public Administration Major. Dr. Nestor is developing a new course for the fall, Food Politics and Policy in America. She was the coordinator for the Arneson Institute's 2018 midterm election GOTV efforts. For the second summer running, she will be teaching *Harry Potter Politics* and *Hamilton: An American Musical Meets American Government* to gifted middle schoolers attending the June OWJL Camp. Contact: fvnestor@owu.edu.

Moot Court

Advisor: Michael Esler

Ohio Wesleyan Moot Court teams competed in two regional competitions: the Midwest Regional in Wooster, Ohio, and the Great Lakes Regional in Saginaw, Michigan. Both are part of the American Collegiate Moot Court Association's annual moot court competition involving over 300 teams from colleges and universities across the US. Of the 18 students on this year's team only 4 were seniors and only 3 had previously competed in moot court. Dr. Esler said, "They were enthusiastic and put in the work, but I did not have a good sense of how well they would do. It turns out that they performed at a high level in two of the strongest regions in the country. Five of eight of our teams advanced to the final day of competition.

Model United Nations

Advisor: Ji Young Choi

The Model United Nations club, in which students act as delegates to the UN and simulate UN committees, discusses a wide range of topics from China's Foreign Policy to Women's Rights in the Congo. They held debates and mock conferences on North Korea and Area 51. MUN strives to discuss and engage in politics. A goal of MUN is to create more well rounded students, and to foster intellectual conversations among students. We discuss what matters to the world, and what needs to be done, as future leaders. The club makes students a better citizen of the campus, and the international world.

Alana Guzman, MUN President

- 1955** Albert De Martin
Recently Passed
Hamilton Square, New Jersey
- 1956** William L. White, Jr.
JD, University of Cincinnati Law School
Arbitrator for NYSE/FINRA Cases
Wexford, Pennsylvania
- 1959** Miriam Conley
Retired
Estero, Florida
- 1963** Bonnie M. Butler
MA of Education, University of Missouri -
St. Louis
Retired
Hilliard, Ohio
- 1967** Franklin D. Marks
MA in Government, George Washington
University
Procurement Specialist, U.S. Department
of Health and Human Services
Silver Spring, Maryland
- 1968** John Down
MA of Political Science and International
Politics, The Ohio State University. MBA
of Finance, Monmouth University
Retired
Scottsville, Virginia
- 1969** Edgar H. Boles
JD, Case Western Reserve School of Law
Attorney at Dinn, Hochman & Potter, LLC
Chagrin Falls, Ohio
- Pamela Kane (Turner)
MSPA (Master of Science in Public
Accountancy) at Walsh College
West Bloomfield, Michigan
- 1974** Helen Evans
MA of Spanish, Middlebury College
Self-employed author, photographer,
interpreter, translator
Wolfeboro, New Hampshire
- 1975** Gardner Pechham
American University School of International
Service
Retired
Middleton, Wisconsin
- Winona Zimmerlin
JD, Western New England School of Law
Zimmerlin Law, LLC
Manchester, Connecticut
- 1979** Geron L. Tate
MA of Counseling, Ohio Methodist Theology
Seminary
President of G. Tate & Associates, LLC
Mansfield, Ohio
- 1983** Rhysa South
JD, University of Richmond T.C. Williams
School of Law
Retired
Midlothian, Virginia
- 1988** Bill Johnson
JD, American University School of Law
Partner in Special Matters and Government
Investigations at King & Spalding, LLP
New York, New York
- 1991** Mike Hamra
MBA, Kennesaw State University. JD,
University of Missouri - Columbia
CEO of Hamra Enterprises
Springfield, Missouri
- Evelyn Jones
Industrial and Labor Relations Certificate,
Cornell University. MA of Education in Student
Personnel Services, University of South
Carolina - Columbia
Executive Director of Sales and Service of North
America at Cummins, Inc.
- 1992** Tim Burga
President of Ohio AFL-CIO
Westerville, Ohio
- 1994** Deborah Blackburn
Supervisor of Crime Victims
Compensation Section, Ohio Attorney
General
Springfield, Ohio

Alumni Updates (con.)

	Elaine Liberto MA of Education, Loyola University Reading Specialist, St. Agnes Catholic School Cantonsville, Maryland	2014 Sarah JanTaush Director of Outreach, Ohio Lt. Governor's Office Delaware, Ohio
2005	Dan O'Brien Senior Manager of Government Relations, Fidelity Investments Arlington, Virginia	2016 Corey Bottensek Pursuing MA of Political Science, Liberty University Amazon Prime Now Associate. East High School Assistant Football Coach. Owner of Don's Mobile Notary Lakewood, Colorado
2006	Jeff Van Schaick AVP Government Affairs, Genesee & Wyoming, Inc. Keller, Texas	Taylor Golden Deputy Auditor/Licensing, Franklin County Auditor Saint Paul, Minnesota
2017	Brent Perrin Senior Director and Deputy Director of State Research, America Rising Washington, D.C.	
2013	Michael Wigwey JD, University of California - Davis Associate Attorney, Karnopp Petersen, LLC Bend, Oregon	

2018-2019 Department Lectures

The department is grateful to these endowed lecture series which enable us to bring prestigious speakers to campus.

16th ANNUAL CORINNE LYMAN LECTURE ON INTERNATIONAL STUDIES:

"U.S. National Security and the Trump Administration" **Nancy A. Youssef**, national security correspondent for *The Wall Street Journal*.

BENJAMIN F. MARSH LECTURE SERIES ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS:

"A Perspective: Congress, the White House and Business. Bipartisanship in Partisan Politics" **Nicholas E. Calio** (OWU '75), President & CEO of Airlines for America

30th ANNUAL JOHN KENNARD EDDY MEMORIAL LECTURE ON WORLD POLITICS:

"Global Climate Change, Water Security and Ecosystem Disruption: Higher Scientific Confidence than You Might Think"
Jonathan T. Overpeck, William B. Stapp Collegiate Professor of Environmental Education and the Samuel A. Graham Dean of the School of Environment and Sustainability at the University of Michigan.

"Gender Considerations in Military Operations: Mission Critical?" **Stéfanie von Hlatky**, Director at the Centre for International and Defense Policy at Queen's University, Ontario.

"Why Did the United States Invade Iraq in 2003?" **Ahsan I. Butt**, (OWU '06), Associate Professor, Schar School of Policy and Government, George Mason University, Non-resident Fellow, Stimson Center

"The Prospect of North Korea's Denuclearization" **Mark Tokola**, Vice President of the Korea Economic Institute of America, Washington, D.C.

Department Awards

The Politics and Government Department annually recognizes outstanding students with two awards.

JAMES J. HEARN AWARD FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

The department recently awarded the *James J. Hearn Award for Practical Political or Government Service*, given in honor of James J. Hearn, a 1953 graduate. It was established to encourage wider participation by college men and women in the affairs of the government. The 2019 recipients of the James J. Hearn Award are **Sarah Mattick** and **Hannah Wargo**.

EARL E. WARNER AWARD FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

This *Award for Academic Excellence* was established in honor of Earl E. Warner, class of 1926. Warner was a professor at Ohio Wesleyan from 1946-1972, acting as chair of the department from 1954-1960. This award is presented each spring to the Politics and Government Department senior major or majors with highest grade point average. This year the award went to **Alyssa DiPadova**.

Upsilon Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha

Class of 2019

Catherine R. Allen	Molly B. Geffken
Anastasia V. Borish	Sarah R. Mattick
Alyssa E. DiPadova	Nicholas L. Melvin
Emily M. Fekete	Yanira Rhymer-Stuart
Hollend M. Hickman	Hannah R. Wargo
Thomas C. Oggier	



Chapter Advisor: William C. Louthan

Class of 2020

Maxwell M. Aaronson	Benjamin A. Woodburn
Daniela P. Black	
Ahmed Ibrahim Hamed	
Gregory A. Margevicius	
Kennedy W. Sattler	
Aimen Nawaz Shah	

The Upsilon Chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha began at OWU in 1934. Our membership roster totals at 898, which includes the twelve Charter members and the above listed new members. Those eligible for membership must be:

Juniors: *declared* PG major with at least 5 courses completed in PG and have 3.5 GPA in PG and a 3.25 overall.

Seniors: *declared* PG major with 3.25 GPA in PG and a 3.00 overall.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Ohio Wesleyan University
Department of Politics and Government
61 S. Sandusky Street
Delaware, OH 43015

U.S. Postage Pd.

Non-Profit Org.