

2006 Midwest Political Science Undergraduate Research Conference

March 23 - March 25

Minnesota State University, Mankato
Mankato, MN



Thursday, March 23

- 3:00-6:00 Registration, 2nd floor Centennial Student Union (CSU)
- 6:30-8:30 Opening Banquet and Speaker in CSU North Ballroom

Friday, March 24

- 8:00-5:00 Registration, 2nd floor CSU
- 7:30-8:30 Breakfast in CSU North Ballroom
- 8:30-10:00 Panel Set I:

CSU 201: *Education Politics and Policy*

Chair/Discussant: Dr. J. Scott Granberg-Rademacker, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Kevin J. Dehmer, St. John's University, "No Child Left Behind: Producing Proficiency or Mediocrity?"

Christopher Truso, St. John's University, "The Economics of Early Childhood Education: Universal Benefit from Targeted Programs."

CSU 256: *Globalization and International Organizations*

Chair/Discussant: Dr. Jacqueline Vieceli, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Crispin Rea, Park University, "America's Globalization Virus."

Scott Godfrey, Bemidji State University, "The Price is Right: Bargaining as an Obstacle to Expansion of the United Nations Security Council."

CSU 285: *Media and U.S. Politics*

Chair/Discussant: Dr. Ron Brecke, Park University

Kelli Bamforth, Park University, "The Media and the 2004 Presidential Election."

Billy Williams, Park University, "Journalism and Democracy."

Morgan Weiland, Carleton College, "Tacit Consent: The American News Media and Minority Tyranny."

10:15-11:45

Panel Set II:

CSU 201: *Voting and Elections in the U.S.*

Chair/Discussant: Dr. Fred Slocum, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Seth Stennes, St. John's University, "The Lack of Third Party Candidates and Officeholders: The Role of Structural Obstacles."

Paul Heppner, University of Iowa, "Early Voting: Convenient for Voters but Advantageous for Incumbents?"

CSU 256: *East Asian Politics*

Chair/Discussant: Dr. Eiji Kawabata, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Megan Aageson, Gustavus Adolphus College, "Human Rights v. Economic Prosperity: A Crucial Issue for U.S.-Chinese Relations."

Tomo Shimamura, Bemidji State University, "Levels of Education and East Asian Attitudes toward Regionalism: Prospects for an East Asian Regional Organization."

CSU 285: *Environmental Politics*

Chair/Discussant: Dr. Graham Ramsden, Creighton University

Whittney M. Smythe-Smith, Creighton University, "Green Elephants: The Search for Factors Contributing to Republican Environmental Support."

Jessica Schaum, Bemidji State University, "Making the Environment Sexy to Voters and Consumers."

11:45-1:00

Lunch in CSU North Ballroom

1:15-2:45

Panel Set III:

CSU 201: *Comparative Parties and Electoral Systems*

Chair/Discussant: Dr. Tomasz Inglot, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Kris Leritz, Bemidji State University, "I Can't Get No Satisfaction with Democracy: The Effects of Electoral Systems on Citizen Satisfaction with Democracy and Political Parties."

Bethany Berry, Minnesota State University, Mankato, "Political Parties and Elections in Honduras and Nicaragua."

CSU 244: *Women and Politics*

Chair/Discussant: Dr. Graham Ramsden, Creighton University

Meghan Redd, Grinnell College, "The Composition and Progress of Women's Groups in Russia's Developing Civil Society."

Melissa Andersen, Minnesota State University, Mankato, "The Effects of Women Heads of State in the Modern Day."

2:45-3:30 Break with refreshments in CSU 201

3:30-5:00 Panel Set IV:

CSU 201: *International Relations*

Chair/Discussant: Dr. Richard Leitch, Gustavus Adolphus College

Lydia Pfaff, University of Iowa, "Power Distribution and Conflict Behavior in Non-Major Power Dyads."

Gregory Boubel, Minnesota State University, Mankato, "The Clash of Expectations and the Origin of the Cold War."

CSU 256: *Politics in the American States*

Chair/Discussant: Dr. Patrick Donnay, Bemidji State University

Emer Murphy, Creighton University, "The Disparity of Spending on Rehabilitative Programs in the Juvenile Justice System."

Candace Rosten, Bemidji State University, "What's in a Price? The Effect of Retail Employment on State Social Welfare Spending."

6:30-8:00 Dinner and awards in Heritage Room, 1st floor CSU

Saturday, March 25

8:00-12:00 Registration, 2nd floor CSU

8:00-10:00 Breakfast in CSU 253-254-255

10:00-11:30 Panel Set V:

CSU 201: *Minnesota Politics*

Chair/Discussant: Dr. Patrick Donnay, Bemidji State University

Daniel Miller, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, "Analyzing Minnesota's 2005 Health Impact Fee."

Elliot Schutjer, Bemidji State University, "Rural Depopulation and Changing Voting Patterns in Minnesota Counties."

CSU 204: *Identity Politics*

Chair/Discussant: Dr. Fred Slocum, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Nathan Sellers, Gustavus Adolphus College, "A First Amendment Analysis of Hate Crime Laws: Revisiting *Wisconsin v. Mitchell* and Recommending Change."

Gertrude Lee, Creighton University, "Support of Gaming in Navajo Chapter Communities."

Somora Smith, University of Wisconsin-River Falls, "African Americans and Church: The Mobilization of Political Participation through African American Churches."

12:00-1:30 Lunch in CSU 253-254-255; faculty planning lunch in same room

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Equal Opportunity: *Minnesota State University, Mankato is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination in education opportunity. No person shall be discriminated against in access to and participation in programs, services, and activities with regard to race, sex, color, creed, religion, age, national origin, disability, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, or membership or activity in a local commission as defined by law.*

