

17th Annual Midwest Political Science Undergraduate Research Conference

- 2008 CONFERENCE PROGRAM -

REGISTRATION

1:00-2:30 PM, McCaskey Lyceum Lobby

FRIDAY SESSIONS **March 14, 2008**

**WARTBURG
COLLEGE**

Friday A-1 2:45-4:00 PM
Whitehouse Business Center 214

JUDICIAL POLITICS

Faculty Chair/Discussant: **Dr. Ron Brecke**, Park University
ronald.brecke@park.edu

The Supreme Court and the Separation of Church and State: Is the Line Intentionally Blurred or Just out of Focus?
Andrew M. Crippen, Missouri Western State University amc9552@missouriwestern.edu

The Well-Oiled Judicial Machine: How School Desegregation & Nixon's Election Inflamed Executive Power
Breton Krafft, Gustavus Adolphus College bharris@gustavus.edu

Crime and Punishment in Law and Order: An Experimental Study of Media Effects of Fictional Television
Sarah Vig, University of Minnesota—Morris sarah.vig@gmail.com

Friday A-2 2:45-4:00 PM
Whitehouse Business Center 217

ELECTION POLITICS

Faculty Chair/Discussant: **Dr. Graham Ramsden**, Creighton University
gpr@creighton.edu

When Success Leads to Failure: Foreign Policy in the Bush Administration & its Influence in the 1992 Presidential Election
Luke Anton, Gustavus Adolphus College lanton@gustavus.edu

How Late is too Late: Do Presidential Candidates' Dates of Declaration Influence the Likelihood of Winning the Nomination?
LeAnn Hedquist, University of Minnesota—Morris hedq0006@morris.umn.edu

The Rhetoric of Security: How the Bush Campaign Effectively Capitalized on 9/11 in the 2004 Election
Siddarth Selvaraj, Gustavus Adolphus College sselvara@gustavus.edu

Friday B-1 4:30-5:45 PM
Whitehouse Business Center 214

RELIGION AND POLITICS

Faculty Chair/Discussant: **Dr. Paul Gardner**, Luther College
gardnerp@luther.edu

The Effects of Globalization on Religion in Brazil
Stephanie Grace, Luther College gracst01@luther.edu

(In)Consistent Ethic of Life: Explaining Variation of Attitudes among Catholics towards the Death Penalty
Kaitly Hagen, Creighton University kaitlinhagen@creighton.edu

Dinner Party Faux Pas: Religious Cues in Party Platforms, 1920-2004
Kristi Kehrwald, University of Minnesota—Morris kehr0014@morris.umn.edu

Fundamental Islam in Kosova: Threat or Myth?
Rilind Latifi, Wartburg College rilind.latifi@wartburg.edu

Friday B-2 4:30-5:45 PM
Whitehouse Business Center 217

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Faculty Chair/Discussant: **Dr. Richard Leitch**, Gustavus Adolphus College
rleitch@gustavus.edu

The Accession of Turkey to the European Union
Kate Franklin, Wartburg College kate.franklin@wartburg.edu

Public Support for the use of Political Assassination to Fight International Terrorism
Adam Palmersheim, Central College palmersheima1@central.edu

UN vs. USA: The United States' Role in the United Nations
Patrizia Pfefferkorn, Park University patrizia.pfefferkorn@park.edu

How the Poor Stay—and Get—Poorer: Examining the Role of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank in the Perpetuation and Exacerbation of Poverty in the South
Jen Wendland, Wartburg College jennifer.wendland@wartburg.edu

CONFERENCE BANQUET

6:30-8:00 PM

Heritage Room, Saemann Student Center

REGISTRATION

7:30-8:30 AM, McCaskey Lyceum Lobby

CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

7:30-8:30 AM, McCaskey Lyceum Lobby

SATURDAY SESSIONS

March 15, 2008

**WARTBURG
COLLEGE**

Saturday A-1 8:30-9:45 AM

Whitehouse Business Center 214

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT

Faculty Chair/Discussant: **Dr. Jon Euchner**, Missouri Western State University
euchner@missouriwestern.edu

Women's Underrepresentation in American Legislatures

Kristina Smith, Creighton University kristinasmith@creighton.edu

The Hagel Effect: Do Party Constituencies Sway Incumbent Senator's Decisions to Retire?

Nathan Swanson, University of Minnesota—Morris swan0886@morris.umn.edu

When Conventions Mattered: The Importance of the National Party Conventions in the Election of 1952

Jenni White, Gustavus Adolphus College jwhite@gustavus.edu

Saturday A-2 8:30-9:45 AM

Whitehouse Business Center 217

POLITICS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Faculty Chair/Discussant: **Dr. Bruce Nesmith**, Coe College
bnesmith@coe.edu

Global Warming and the Dialectic of Enlightenment

Eagan Heath, University of Minnesota—Morris heath053@morris.umn.edu

The State of Nature: Modeling Variation in Environmental Protection among the American States

Jeremy Peichel, Buena Vista University peicjer@bvu.edu

Oil Alternatives and National Commitment: OECD Countries need Green to Get Green

Drew Sendelbach, Creighton University drewsendelbach@creighton.edu

Saturday B-1 10:00-11:15 AM
Whitehouse Business Center 214

STATE AND LOCAL POLITICS

Faculty Chair/Discussant: **Dr. Andrew Green**, Central College
greena@central.edu

Safety in the Workplace: Assessing the Impact of Information on Perceptions of Safety in Nebraska's Meatpacking Plants

Jillian Husman, Creighton University jillianhusman@creighton.edu

Small Turnout, Large Problems: An Analysis of Political Participation in American Large City Mayor Elections

Josh Johnson, Creighton University joshuaajohnson@creighton.edu

Community Groups: Sharing for Change

Tess Putnam, Luther College putnth01@luther.edu

Saturday B-2 10:00-11:15 AM
Whitehouse Business Center 217

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

Faculty Chair/Discussant: **Dr. Bret Billet**, Wartburg College
bret.billet@wartburg.edu

Democracy Interrupted: Toward a Theory of Failed Transitions

Alex Clausen, University of Minnesota—Morris claus147@morris.umn.edu

Evolution of Women's Rights and the Law

Rachel L. Gordy, Park University rachel.gordy@park.edu

Transitions to Democracy in Sub-Saharan Africa: A Cross-National Time Series Analysis of Levels of Democracy from 1997-2006

Patrick Ritter, Creighton University patrickritter@creighton.edu

Saturday C-1 11:30-12:45 PM
Whitehouse Business Center 214

CONSTITUTIONAL POLITICS

Faculty Chair/Discussant: **Dr. Brad Best**, Buena Vista University
best@bv.edu

Calculating Supreme Court Approval Utilizing Readily Available Data
Thomas Cameron, Wisconsin Lutheran College thomas.cameron@wlc.edu

Enemy Combatant
Javier A. Centonzio, Park University jcentonzio@hotmail.com

Unholstering the Second Amendment: A Dual Collective-Individual Rights Theory of the Second Amendment
Katharine Willey, Drake University klw003@drake.edu
Sivakanthan Kasinathan, Drake University

The Forgotten Amendment: An Analysis of the Ninth Amendment
Billy Williams, Park University billy.williams@park.edu

Saturday C-2 11:30-12:45 PM
Whitehouse Business Center 217

COMPARATIVE POLITICS

Faculty Chair/Discussant: **Dr. Paula O'Loughlin**, University of Minnesota—Morris
oloughpl@morris.umn.edu

The Nature of Ethnicity in Africa: A Test of Political Relevance
Brian Smith, Creighton University briansmith@creighton.edu

The Special Treatment of Refugees in the United States and Germany: Political and Ethnic Concerns and Why Today's Refugees are Different
Holly Wiedenhoef, St. Olaf College wiedenhh@stolaf.edu

A Comparison of Pension Reform: Hungary and Russia
Ryan Wiesen, Minnesota State University—Mankato ryan.wiesen@mnsu.edu

LUNCH

1:00-2:00 PM, TBA

FACULTY PLANNING LUNCH

1:00-2:00 PM, TBA