

2009 Midwest Political Science Undergraduate Research Conference

Buena Vista University

March 20-21, 2009

Welcome to the 2009 Midwest Political Science Undergraduate Research Conference and the campus of Buena Vista University. This year, nearly 40 student research papers will be presented on eleven topically organized panels. All student panels will be held in the Estelle Siebens Science Center (ESSC). On the evening of Friday, March 20, all student presenters, attendees, and sponsoring faculty are invited to a banquet held in the Harold Walter Siebens Forum, located underground, just one block east of ESSC. William Jacoby, Professor of Political Science at Michigan State University, will serve as keynote speaker. Awards for “Best Paper” and “Best Paper Runner-Up” complete the evening’s activities.

During your time on the BVU campus, you may find the following information helpful.

Conference coordinators:

Dr. Bradley Best [Best@bvu.edu] telephone 712-749-2159

Lisa Kesting Best [BestL@bvu.edu] telephone 712-749-2195

Timothy McDaniel [McDaniel@bvu.edu] telephone 712-749-2060

Area Hotels

King’s Pointe Resort and Conference Center, telephone 712-213-4500

Baymont Inn and Suites, telephone 712-732-1000

Super 8 Motel, telephone 712-732-3063

BVU Campus Information Desk:

Information / Operator, telephone 712-749-2400

BVU Campus Security (24 hours):

Mark Kirkholm, Director, telephone 712-749-2500

Storm Lake Police Department

Emergencies, dial 911

Non-emergencies, dial 712-749-2525

Medical Care:

Buena Vista Regional Medical Center, telephone 712-732-4030

Schedule of Student Research Presentations and Special Events

All student research presentations will be held in the Estelle Siebens Science Center (ESSC)

Students – Please arrive at the location of your presentation no less than 10 minutes prior to the scheduled start time. Allow sufficient time to arrange materials and deal with technological concerns. When possible, make additional copies of your papers available to audience members and other panelists.

Panel chair/discussants – Please attempt to begin each panel meeting at the scheduled start time. Some “slack” time is scheduled for the end of each round, so small adjustments in students’ time allotments is acceptable.

Friday, March 20

- **Registration – Estelle Siebens Science Center (ESSC), 1:00-2:30 p.m.**
- **Round I 2:45-4:00 p.m.**

Panel I-A Comparative Politics – The Developing World (ESSC 126)
Chair/Discussant: Dr. Richard Leitch, Gustavus Adolphus College
[rleitch@gustavus.edu]

~ Trevor Carolan, Wartburg College, “The Impact of Transportation Infrastructure on Total Trade of Developing Member Countries in the World Trade Organization”

~ Lisa Hager, Wartburg College, “Ethnic Fractionalization in the Growth and Development of Sub-Saharan Africa”

~ Campbell Faulkner, Creighton University, “Questions of Stability: The Effects That Oil and Natural Gas Production Have Upon State Stability”

Panel I-B International Relations – Terrorism (ESSC 139)
Chair/Discussant: Dr. Kimberly Lanegran, Coe College
[klanegra@coe.edu]

~ Mitchell Lincoln, Coe College, “The Irish Republican Army: A Case Study in Terrorism”

~ Erin Peterson, Creighton University, “Global Terrorism: The Link Between a Regime’s Political Orientation and Violence”

~ Erin Lawrence, Wartburg College, “The Economic Impact of September 11, 2001 on Less Developed Countries”

Panel I-C Political Theory - Power and the State (ESSC 138)
Chair/Discussant: Dr. Bruce Nesmith, Coe College
[bnesmith@coe.edu]

~ Kevin Dyrland, Coe College, "Hegel's Political Philosophy in *Philosophy of Right*"

~ Elizabeth Linn, St. Olaf College, "Rumor is that John Paul II Tried on Bono's Sunglasses: Tracing the Vatican's Interactive Disturbance of Power as an International Political Entity."

- **Round II 4:30 -5:45 p.m.**

Panel II-A Comparative Politics – Latin America (ESSC 138)
Chair/Discussant: Dr. James Pasley, Park University
[james.pasley@park.edu]

~ Kristin Knudson, Gustavus Adolphus College, "The U.S. Army School of the Americas, U.S. Foreign Policy and Human Rights"

~ Katrina Heimark, University of Minnesota-Morris, "*Sendero Luminoso*: Terrorism and Instability – A Closer Look at Changing Rhetoric"

~ Erica Koos, Gustavus Adolphus College, "NAFTA and its Effects on the Mexican Illegal Immigrant Population in the United States"

Panel II-B International Relations – Asia, Collective Security (ESSC 139)
Chair/Discussant: Dr. Bret Billet, Wartburg College
[bret.billet@wartburg.edu]

~ Patrick Bright, Bemidji State University, "The Samurai's Rebirth – Japan's Increasing 'Offensive' Security Capabilities"

~ Sheng Peng, Drake University, "Get Over the Past: An Empirical Study of the Chinese Government's Changing Rhetoric on China-Japan Historical Disputes"

~ Michelle Durant, Wartburg College, "Evolution of Bloc Voting in the United Nations General Assembly: How the International System Structure Dictates the United States' Voting Behavior in the General Assembly"

~ Alex Murphy, University of Minnesota-Morris, "Heretic or Brother? Pragmatism and Ideology in Iranian Foreign Policy Toward Iraq"

Panel II-C American Politics – Voters and Elections (ESSC 126)
Chair/Discussant: Dr. William Jacoby, Michigan State University
[jacoby@msu.edu]

~ Cody Miller, University of Minnesota-Morris, “Valued: A Study of the Acquisition of Values, Frames, and Party Identification”

~ Michael McBride, University of Minnesota-Morris, “How Priming Won the White House”

~ Michael Bahr, Buena Vista University, “Morning in America: A Theoretical Look at the 1980 Presidential Election”

~ Joshua Christensen, Bemidji State University, “2006 and 2008 U.S. House Elections: A Sign of Demographic Realignment?”

- **MPSURC Conference Banquet, Dows Grand Ballroom in the Harold Walter Siebens Forum, 6:30-8:00 p.m., Keynote speaker: Professor William Jacoby, Michigan State University**

Saturday, March 21

- **Late Registration – Estelle Siebens Science Center (ESSC), 7:30-8:30 a.m.**
- **Special Presentation – 8:30-9:45 a.m., ESSC 126, Professor Timothy McDaniel, Buena Vista University, “Don’t Do That! Things to Avoid in Political Science Research”**
- **Round III 10:00-11:15 a.m.**

Panel III-A Comparative Politics – Women’s Movements (ESSC 139)
Chair/Discussant: Dr. Paula O’loughlin, University of Minnesota –Morris
[oloughpl@morris.umn.edu]

~ Johanna Schnell, Coe College, “*Salimos Adelante: Women Striving for Autonomy in El Roblar, Nicaragua*”

~ Sam Haraway, Coe College, “Women’s Movements in Revolutionary Cuba and Nicaragua”

~ Kathy Julik-Heine, University of Minnesota-Morris, “Is Reservation Effective Public Policy for Generating Women’s Empowerment in India?”

Panel III-B American Politics – Interest Groups and the Media (ESSC 138)
Chair/Discussant: Dr. Jonathan Euchner, Missouri Western State University
[euchner@missouriwestern.edu]

~ Amy Erickson, Gustavus Adolphus College, “Ensuring Survival: The Role of Feminist Interest Groups in Senator Hillary Clinton’s Presidential Campaign”

~ Amanda Capelle, Gustavus Adolphus College, “Advocacy: Policy Tactics in Response to Social Construction”

~ Saba Nasser and Jesh Livstrom, University of Minnesota-Morris, “Political Culture Under Attack (911): Fundamental Values, Sentiments, and Knowledge of a Nation in Jeopardy”

~ Stuart Washington, Park University, “Citizenship and the Media in the 2008 Election”

Panel III-C Public Policy – Energy and the Environment (ESSC 126)
Chair/Discussant: Dr. Graham Ramsden, Creighton University
[gpr@creighton.edu]

~ Amber Neumann, Bemidji State University, “NEPA and the Dynamics of Public Participation in the Environmental Review Process: An Analysis of the NorthMet (PolyMet) Mining Project Near Hoyt Lakes Minnesota”

~ Kyle McGinn, Creighton University, “National Park Service? Explaining the Expansion of the National Park Service; 1960-1992”

~ Jeremy Peichel, Buena Vista University, “The Economics of Food and Fuel: The Dynamic Effects of Ethanol in the U.S. Corn Market, 1978-2007”

~ Rene Maes, University of Minnesota-Morris, “Robert Owen’s Telegraph Revisited: Gasoline Price Volatility and General Economic Inferences”

- **Round IV 11:30 -12:45 p.m.**

Panel IV-A Public Policy in the American States (ESSC 126)
Chair/Discussant: Dr. Patrick Donnay, Bemidji State University
[pdonnay@bemidjistate.edu]

~ Valerie Kraucunas, Creighton University, “State Cigarette Excise Tax: The Anti-Drug?”

~ Tyler Loontjer, Creighton University, “An Adequate Resistance to Forced Annexation”

~ Michael Weber, Bemidji State University, “The Politics of Medical Marijuana Policy Adoption in the American States

~ Matti Adam, Bemidji State University, “The Diffusion of Drug Courts Across Minnesota Counties”

Panel IV-B American Politics – The People and War (ESSC 138)
Chair/discussant: Dr. Ronald Brecke, Park University
[ronald.brecke@park.edu]

~ Javier Centonzio, Park University, “Homeless Heroes: The Shame of Our Republic”

~ Marissa Merchant, University of Wisconsin-River Falls, “2008-2009 UWRF Iraq War Survey and Results”

~ Graham Guenther, Buena Vista University, “War of Words: Inside the Attack on the U.S. Constitution During World War I and World War II”

- **Student Presenters Lunch, 12:45-1:45 p.m., ESSC atrium**
- **Faculty Planning Lunch, 12:45-1:45 p.m. ESSC**