

Midwest Political Science Undergraduate Research Conference

April 15-16, 2011

Coe College

Cedar Rapids, Iowa

FRIDAY, APRIL 15

Registration

2:00-4:00 p.m.

Hickok Hall, 1st Floor

Panels—Round I

4:15-5:30 p.m.

A. *Environmental Politics and Policies*

Room 205 Hickok Hall

“Clean Air Act: Legislative Context and Complexities”

ELIZABETH STEELE, COE COLL

“Promoting the General Welfare: Individual Democratic Sentiment as a Determinant of Pro-Environmental Behavior”

ERIC HANSEN, CREIGHTON UNIV

“Contribution of Descriptive Characteristics to the Level of Environmental Impact among Nations”

MACKENZIE BENSON, WARTBURG COLL

“Factors of Environmental Sustainability for Africa, Asia and Latin America”

JACOB CONVERSE, BEMIDJI STATE UNIV

Discussant: Randy Hagerty, Truman State University [rhagerty@truman.edu]

B. *Sovereignty and Regime Change*

Room 106 Hickok Hall

“From Tibet to Taiwan: An Examination of China’s Concept of Sovereignty”

JORDAN CASH, UNIV OF NEBRASKA-OMAHA

“My Neighbor’s Old Regime Has Gone Away”

THOMAS OLSEN, HASTINGS COLL

“Looking Forward: The Future of Bosnia”

LARA MBAYED and STEPHANIE NORTHROP, DE PAUL UNIV

Discussant: James Pasley, Park University [james.pasley@park.edu]

C. American Voting Behavior

Room 305 Hickok Hall

"Conditions for Independent Women Voting Republican"
HANNAH MOONEY, CREIGHTON UNIV

"Family Matters: The Importance of Parents' Political Attitudes in Shaping Their Children's
Political Attitudes"
ELIZABETH THOMA, UNIV OF MINNESOTA-MORRIS

"U.S. Labor Support: Democratic Party, 2001 to 2010"
NICHOLAS BROTHERS, MISSOURI WESTERN STATE UNIV

Discussant: Brad Best, Buena Vista University [Best@bvu.edu]

Banquet

6:30-8:00 p.m.

Lynch Room, Gage Memorial Union

Announcement of Best Paper Award winners

Paper Awards Committee

Bret L. Billet, Wartburg College

Ron Brecke, Park University

Paula O'Loughlin, Univ of Minnesota-Morris

Keynote address

JONATHAN AHL, NEWS DIRECTOR, IOWA PUBLIC RADIO

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

Late Registration

7:30-8:30 a.m.

Hickok Hall, 1st Floor

Continental Breakfast

7:30-8:30 a.m.

106 Hickok Hall

Panels—Round II

8:30-9:45 a.m.

A. *Middle East*

301 Hickok Hall

“Is a Fifth Wave Possible?: A Preliminary Investigation on Regime Change and Democratization in the Middle East and North Africa through Government Reactions”

TOBY FLINT, HASTINGS COLL

“An Empirical Analysis of Terrorism in the Middle East and Africa”

ISAIAH CORBIN, WARTBURG COLL

Discussant: Graham Ramsden, Creighton University [gpr@creighton.edu]

B. *Implementing U.S. National Policies*

305 Hickok Hall

“Abstinence Only Education in America”

RONNI McCOY, COE COLL

“Policy and the Supreme Court: An Examination of Cert Petitions in Sentencing Guideline Cases”

CORRIE E. CALER, CREIGHTON UNIV

“Same-Sex Marriage: A Matter of Moral Politics?”

ETHAN OLSON, COE COLL

Discussant: Patrick Donnay, Bemidji State University [pdonnay@bemidjistate.edu]

C. *Non-Western Political Thought*

205 Hickok Hall

“The Compatibility of Islam and Democracy”

MATT PRIVRATSKY, UNIV OF MINNESOTA-MORRIS

“Talking to Africa: A Proposal”

CODY MILLER, UNIV OF MINNESOTA-MORRIS

Discussant: Brandon Kendhammer, Ohio University [kendhamm@ohio.edu]

Panels—Round III

10:00-11:15 a.m.

A. *Cross-National Comparisons*

202 Hickok Hall

“What Factors Influence Human Rights Violations in Latin America, from 1976 to 2008?”
SILVIA E. RODRIGUEZ PENA, CREIGHTON UNIV

“Domestic Terrorism: The Threat Within”
ANDREW JANUSZ, CREIGHTON UNIV

“How Development Assistance, Peace and Corruption Relate to the Development of a Country as Indicated by the Human Development Report”
ELISE M. WEBER, WARTBURG COLL

Discussant: Kimberly Lanegran, Coe College [klanegra@coe.edu]

B. *World Politics*

205 Hickok Hall

“International Student Exchange: Soft Power and Voting Alliances at the United Nations”
NAMBEE RAGAVAN, BEMIDJI STATE UNIV

“Japanese Perspectives on International Relations and Security Issues in the Asia-Pacific Region”
JOSHUA CAMPBELL, UNIV OF NEBRASKA-OMAHA

“Population and Policy: How the Last 50 Years Will Determine the Fate of the Next 50”
OLIVIA WALKER, PARK UNIV

Discussant: Lynda K. Barrow, Coe College [lbarrow@coe.edu]

C. *Political Behavior*

301 Hickok Hall

“Constructing Double Consciousness: Media Regimes and Racial Identity Construction”
MICHAEL McBRIDE, UNIV OF MINNESOTA-MORRIS

“What is a Canuck?: Analyses to Find Causes of Increases in Nativism in Modern Canada”
ROBERT A. PLACEK III, CREIGHTON UNIV

Discussant: Robert Amyot, Hastings College [ramyot@hastings.edu]

D. *Western Political Theory*

305 Hickok Hall

“Insights into the Nature of Political Evolution: The Competing Cases of Hayek and Marx”
DAVID SCOTT, TRUMAN STATE UNIV

"Karl Marx's Critique of Rights"
BRIAN JANSSEN, BUENA VISTA UNIV

"Male Cose Sono Sempre Così Complicate in Italia: Why Weber Got it Wrong in Italy"
RONALD FORSELL, BUENA VISTA UNIV

Discussant: Alice Obrecht, Coe College [aobrecht@coe.edu]

Panels—Round IV

11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

A. *American Public Policy*

202 Hickok Hall

"Welfare Reform Policies and Their Effect on Poverty Rates across the United States"
LUKE N. WELLE, BEMIDJI STATE UNIV

"The Effect of U.S. State Taxes on State Economic Prosperity"
CASEY DAINSBURG, BEMIDJI STATE UNIV

"Why Politicians Drop the Ball on Stadium Taxes"
MARK PRIVRATSKY, UNIV OF MINNESOTA-MORRIS

"Poverty in Native American Tribal Areas: Effects of Economic and Geographical Restrictions"
THOMAS KIERL, CREIGHTON UNIV

Discussant: Jonathan Euchner, Missouri Western State University

B. *Gender and Politics*

205 Hickok Hall

"The Gender Frame: Differences between the Framing of Republican and Democratic Female Candidates"
KATIE WUTCHIETT, UNIV OF MINNESOTA-MORRIS

"Maternal and Child Health in Nigeria"
ALEXANDER HIRSCH, COE COLL

Discussant: Liz Frombgen, Hastings College [lfrombgen@hastings.edu]

C. *Africa*

301 Hickok Hall

"Sub-Saharan African Refugees"
NEMA J. PHILIP, CREIGHTON UNIV

"HIV: Maternal and Infant Mortality Rates in Africa"
OSAMA KHAN, COE COLL

"Sudan as an Example of a Proxy War between China and the United States"
PATRIZIA PFEFFERKORN, PARK UNIV

Discussant: Bret L. Billet, Wartburg College [bret.billet@wartburg.edu]

Closing Lunch

12:45-1:45 p.m.

Students: 102 Hickok Hall

Faculty Planning Lunch: 106 Hickok Hall