2013 Midwest Political Science
Undergraduate Research Conference

Opening Banquet Program

March 22, 2013, 6:00 P.M.
Centennial Student Union, Heritage Room
Minnesota State University, Mankato
Welcome and Introductions

Dinner

Presentation of Best Paper Awards

Introduction of Keynote Speaker
Dr. Fred Slocum
Associate Professor of Political Science
Minnesota State University, Mankato

Keynote Address: “The Supreme Court and Archival Research”

Dr. Timothy R. Johnson
Professor of Political Science
University of Minnesota – Twin Cities
Minneapolis, Minnesota

2013 Midwest Political Science Undergraduate Research Conference

March 22-23, 2013
Minnesota State University, Mankato
Mankato, MN
**Friday, March 22**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:00-6:00</td>
<td>Registration, inside main (south) entrance, CSU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00-6:00</td>
<td>Welcome! Please enjoy refreshments in CSU 204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00-5:15</td>
<td>Panel Set I:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CSU 201: U.S. Public Policy**

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

Casey Hagedorn (Gustavus Adolphus College), “No Student Left Behind: Achieving the Least Restrictive Environment.”

Tyler Reed (Buena Vista University), “The Student Loan Debt Crisis: Evaluating Competing Solutions Using Formal Policy Analysis Techniques.”

Jasmine Porter (Gustavus Adolphus College), “Slavery Behind Bars: America’s Journey from Chattel Slavery to Private Prison Industries.”

Renate Willer (Gustavus Adolphus College), “Perversion of Justice: A Social Relations Approach to Sex Offender Laws.”

**CSU 202: International Conflict**

Chair/Discussant: Dr. Abdalla Battah, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Spencer Wilson (Creighton University), “Refugees, Aid, and Internal Conflict.”

Jill Whitehouse (Coe College), “To Bargain or Not To Bargain? Wilson’s Struggle to Pass the Versailles Treaty.”

Zoey Reisdorf (Buena Vista University), “Assessing the Importance of Ideology in Religious and Ethnic Conflicts.”

Kaylyn Krzemien (Creighton University), “The Causes of Wartime Casualties.”

6:00-8:00 | Dinner banquet and speaker, CSU Heritage Room (first floor) |

---

**Saturday, March 23**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:45-12:00</td>
<td>Registration, inside main (south) entrance, CSU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:45-12:00</td>
<td>Breakfast and refreshments, CSU 203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30-9:45</td>
<td>Panel Set II:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**CSU 202: U.S. Law and Politics**

Chair/Discussant: Dr. Bradley Best, Buena Vista University


Nicholas Farrar (Benedictine College), “Birth of the Thousand Year Reich: A Grandson’s View of the Lebensborn Project and Engineering Nationalism.”


**CSU 204: Comparative Politics: Developing Nations**

Chair/Discussant: Dr. John Settich, Benedictine College

Bimal Adhikari (Coe College), “The Underlying Reasons Behind Nepal’s Failed Development.”

Naomi Wente (University of Minnesota - Morris), “Food as a Political Tool: An Analysis of the Use of Food Towards Attaining and Sustaining Swaraj (Indian Independence) in the Thought of Gandhi and Shiva.”

Shayla James (Coe College), “Cuban Musicians and the Revolutionary Government: Support or Contestation.”

Adam Yotter (Wartburg College), “The Effects of Resource Scarcity and Resource Abundance on the Outbreak of Internal Conflict in Economically Less Developing Countries.”
10:00-11:15 Panel Set III:

**CSU 202: Political Economy**

Chair/Discussant: Dr. Roger Rose, University of Minnesota - Morris

Yaro Sadek Tahirov (Minnesota State University, Mankato), “The Role of the International Monetary Fund in the East Asian Debt Crisis (1997).”


**CSU 204: U.S. Politics and Elections**

Chair/Discussant: Dr. Joseph Blankenau, Wayne State College

Felicia Pettinger (Creighton University), “Candidate Attractiveness: Correction as a Negating Effect.”


Mary Harrity (Benedictine College), “The Staging of the 2012 Presidential Election: From the Opening Act in Iowa to the Final Act in Washington, DC.”

Michael Happ (Creighton University), “Different System, Different Results: Electoral Success in Competitive, Nonpartisan, Legislative Elections.”

**CSU 238: Political Science Potpourri**

Chair/Discussant: Dr. Fredrick Lee, Winona State University

Margaret O’Connor and Raven Kapayou (both Creighton University), “Self-Determination to Self-Governance.”


Dylan Dittrich (Coe College), “Leo Tolstoy’s Doctrine on Nonviolent Resistance.”


11:30-12:45 Panel Set IV:

**CSU 202: State and Local Politics**

Chair/Discussant: Dr. Kevin Parsneau, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Morgan Schreurs (University of St. Thomas), “Every Farm is Different: Agricultural Practices and Water Quality in Minnesota.”


Kevin Miller (Benedictine College), “City-County Consolidation: An Analysis of Atchison, Kansas.”

**CSU 204: Separatism, Terrorism and Political Violence**

Chair/Discussant: Dr. Kimberly Lanegrann, Coe College

Nicholas Goeden (Creighton University), “Separatist Motivation: An Examination of Culture.”

Thomas Olsen (Hastings College), “My Neighbor’s Regime Is Gone.”

Sophie Wagner (Creighton University), “Explaining the Variance in Terrorism.”

Alison Prater (Creighton University), “A Theoretical Approach to Political Violence: Using a DAG (Directed Acyclical Graph) to Understand the Spread of Al-Qaeda Influence to Africa.”

Buffet lunch, CSU Heritage Room

Faculty planning lunch, CSU 191
Special Thanks To:

- Faculty chairs and discussants: Dr. Scott Granberg-Rademacker, Dr. Kevin Parsneau and Dr. Abdalla Battah (all Minnesota State University, Mankato), Dr. Kimberly Lanegran (Coe College), Dr. Fredrick Lee (Winona State University), Dr. Bradley Best (Buena Vista University), Dr. John Settich (Benedictine College), Dr. Joe Blankenau (Wayne State College), and Dr. Roger Rose (University of Minnesota - Morris). This conference would not be possible without your support!
- Faculty who served on the Best Paper Awards committee: Dr. Bruce Nesmith (Coe College), Dr. Graham Ramsden (Creighton University) and Dr. Ron Brecke (Park University).
- Stephanie Kossik and Maria Cruz, for staffing the conference registration table.
- All student presenters and attendees from participating institutions around the Midwest.
- Sara Frederick in the Minnesota State University, Mankato Office of Integrated Marketing, for assistance in assembling conference-related publications.
- The staff at Minnesota State University, Mankato Printing Services, for designing and printing brochures and other materials.
- Jane Kolars, for patient, cordial and capable assistance in arranging on-campus rooms for conference events.
- Maurine Henderson, for assistance in making catering arrangements.
- Larissa Mrozek and other staff at Greater Mankato Growth, for assistance in securing hotel arrangements, and for providing visitor information at the registration table.
- The national office of Pi Sigma Alpha (national political science honorary society) for a Chapter Activity Grant awarded in fall semester 2012 to support this event.
- Dr. Kimberly Greer, Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences at Minnesota State University, Mankato, for financial support.
- Judith Ziemke, Office Manager, Department of Government at Minnesota State University, Mankato, for institutional support.

Equal Opportunity: Minnesota State University 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.