Halfway through spring semester, but still lots ahead!

While it felt like it took forever to arrive, with Davidson covered in snow as late as Feb. 17 (and classes cancelled for the first time in living memory!), spring is here, and with it, a lot of exciting happenings for Political Science at Davidson.

Last fall, we announced the impending retirement of Dr. Lou Ortmayer, who will step down in May, after 38 years of service to the Department. While we're sorry to see him go, we plan to send him out in style with an event March 27 featuring a panel of former students and colleagues. While the panel might devolve into something of a "roast" (in Dr. Ortmayer's words), we trust it will be a fun time for all. See below for more details.

On the student side of things, we're excited to announce that senior Political Science major Haley Hardie has been named a Truman Scholar. See our conversation with her about her plans for the future on page 2.

A select group of students is also looking forward to the Davidson in Washington program this summer, led this year by Dr. Peter Ahrensdorf. We talked to Dr. Ahrensdorf about what the students will be studying while in DC - see page 6.

We're also pleased to share some of the great work that Professor of Political Science Pat Sellers has been doing to build connections between the College and partners at other organizations. An interview with Dr. Sellers can be found on page 4.

We hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter. If you have questions, comments or suggestions for future articles, please send us an email at PoliticalScienceNews@davidson.edu!

Countdown to LalapaLOUza

LalapaLOUza—a tribute to Dr. Lou Ortmayer for his 38 years of service to the College—is generating a buzz both on campus and in the alumni network.

The Friday, March 27 event will kick off at 1:30pm in the 900 Room of the College Union with a panel presentation of six alums representing the thousands of Davidson students (by our estimate, close to 4,000) who passed through one or more of Dr. Ortmayer's courses on international politics.

Over the course of his career, Ortmayer has collected numerous teaching awards, including the 1993 North Carolina Professor of the Year Award, and he has been a pioneer in the use of the case study teaching method in international politics. His commitment to his students and his extraordinary ability to maintain links with his former students has earned him a loyal fan base among Davidson alumni.

The March 27 event, which is open to the public, features Ken Krieg ‘83 (Founder of Samford Global Strategies and former Under Secretary of Defense, Acquisition, Technology and Logistics, Department of Defense), Eric Rosenbach ’95 (Assistant Secretary of Defense, Homeland Defense and Global Security), Amy Oakes ’98 (Associate Professor of Government, College of William and Mary); The Honorable Laura Turner Beyer ’93 (United States Chief Bankruptcy Judge, U.S. District Court, Western District of North Carolina); Lexy DeVane Tomaino ’96 (Consultant to MPEG LA) and Mark Sandy ’87 (Deputy Associate Director for National Security, Office of Management and Budget).

Former colleagues of Dr. Ortmayer’s in the Political Science Department, Dr. Mary Thornberry (Emeritus), and Dr. Tom Kazee (President of the University of Evansville), will also be honored guests. Dr. Kazee will provide a testimonial on Dr. Ortmayer’s many contributions to the College.

An open reception in the 900 Room will follow. Alumni returning to campus for the event will also be hosted for an evening reception with Dr. Ortmayer at the home of Ken and Karin Menkhaus at 7:00pm.
Student leaders in Political Science

Political Science majors have an impressive track record on campus, taking on leadership roles and winning awards outside the classroom. Here’s a list (far from complete!) of some of the impacts our majors are having at Davidson and beyond:

SGA President: Pablo Zевалlos ’16
SGA Vice President: Ben Callinder ’16
Senior Class President, SGA President (2014-2015): Zi Yang ’16
Dinner at Davidson Vice-Chair: Hampton Stall ’15
Rusk Hall President: Savannah Haeger ’16
Warner Hall President: Perry Dubow ’16
Phi Gamma Delta (FIJI) President: Thomas Hall ’16
Honor Council Chair: Drew Tucker ’15
Honor Council Member: Ben Jernigan ’15
Honor Council Member: Noelle Smith ’16
Honor Council Member: Maddie Sivilli ’16
Student Solicitor: Caroline Ey ’15

A number of Political Science majors have recently been recognized with national awards. Haley Hardie ’15 was named a Truman Scholar (see below for more on that). Drew Tucker ’15 has received a Fulbright Scholarship to Spain for a year after graduation. Lincoln Davidson ’15 was awarded the 2015 ASIANetwork McJimsey Award for the best undergraduate paper on Asia.

Several senior Political Science majors have also been inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, the most prestigious national honor society in the United States: James Atkins, James Cobb, Tomás Husted, Ben Jernigan, Constantin Nuernberger and Charles Pennell. Congratulations to all six!

Hardie ’15 awarded prestigious Truman Scholarship

By Daphne Asteriadis ’18

Haley Hardie ’15 was recently awarded the Harry S. Truman Scholarship. Hardie plans to use the $30,000 award to pursue graduate studies in development.

The Truman Scholarship was established by Congress in 1975 to help worthy college students prepare for careers in government and other public service. This year the national office presented scholarships to 59 recipients from 52 U.S. colleges and universities. In addition to the monetary award, Truman Scholars receive priority admission and supplemental financial aid at some premier graduate institutions, as well as leadership training, career and graduate school counseling and special internship opportunities within the federal government.

Part of Hardie’s application for the Truman Scholarship included a policy proposal, in which she demonstrated her desire to craft policies that help disadvantaged populations. “I proposed that the government dedicate 70 percent of grants currently provided through the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act to programs that follow the ‘housing first’ model,” she said.

The housing first model targets chronically homeless individuals for re-housing in apartments with normal leases, supported by a multi-disciplinary team who can help individuals deal with addiction, mental health, social and employment issues. Housing first programs in U.S. and European cities have seen retention rates of 80-90% after five years, compared to 20-40% retention under other housing models.

“Housing first uses housing as a tool rather than a reward for recovery, and no tool has been more successful,” Hardie said.

This summer, Hardie will be in Washington, D.C. with the Summer Institute, a program run by the Truman Foundation, and will have a full-time internship arranged through the Foundation.

On campus, Hardie is involved in Global Zero, an organization that advocates nuclear disarmament, as well as being a weekly volunteer at Urban Ministry Homeless Shelter in Charlotte and working in President Quillen’s office. Following her graduation in May, Hardie is planning to spend a year teaching English in Spain.

Mark your calendars for the Department picnic!

All Political Science majors and students interested in majoring in Political Science are invited to a picnic at the house of Dr. Menkhaus (650 Dogwood Lane, just a short walk from campus) from 5:30-7:30pm on Friday, April 17. There will be lots of food and fun to celebrate another successful year of Political Science at Davidson College! Vegetarian options will be available. All are welcome, and we hope to see you there!
Student publication seeks contributors

By Sarah Taylor ’16

The Davidson International (http://thedavidsoninternational.com/) is an independent online publication produced by a group of political science majors at Davidson. The publication offers a unique outlet for students to voice their opinions and to spark debate about current international affairs within the Davidson College community. Our pieces cover a wide range of topics relating to international politics and economics, and cover five main regions (Middle East and North Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe). Recent topics have included the US-India nuclear deal, the effect of external forces on Yemen’s political development and Brazil’s newest presidential candidate.

An editorial board of students and an expanding network of student contributors ensure the continued existence of the Davidson International. If you would like to contribute articles or join our editorial team, please contact Sarah Taylor ’16 (sntaylor@davidson.edu) or Colin Vaida ’16 (covaida@davidson.edu). Average articles run 2-3 pages double-spaced and should focus on a relevant aspect of international affairs. Feel free to draw on papers you have written for classes. We always welcome new writers!

Campus events bring politics to Davidson

By Lincoln Davidson ’15

The Political Science Department has had a busy spring semester, with a number of events aimed at promoting discussion of domestic and international politics. The big news - and one of the most exciting speakers to come Davidson in recent memory - was a visit by Associate Justice of the Supreme Court Sonia Sotomayor on March 12.

Speaking to a crowd of around 1,600 students, faculty, staff and community members, Justice Sotomayor discussed the role of justice in America, the politicization of court decisions and the importance of a diverse set of life experiences and perspectives in making judicial rulings. Sotomayor praised Davidson’s emphasis on its students.

“You are very lucky to be here,” she told students seated in the front row. “This is the only place I’ve spoken at...where they put the students front and center.”

A video recording of Sotomayor’s lecture at the College can be found here. During her visit, Sotomayor also met with students in Dr. Andrew O’Geen’s senior seminar, “Politics of the Supreme Court.”

March 12 was a busy day - later that evening, students got to hear from Dr. Lou Ortmayer and Dr. Besir Ceka, who led a discussion on current European affairs with a focus on the Ukrainian crisis, the Greek debt crisis and the upcoming British elections. Their discussion, titled “European Politics in Flux: Out with the Old, In with the New,” was part of a department speaker series that brings together two faculty members to examine topics in current affairs related to their respective specialties.

And earlier that same week, the Department co-hosted a panel discussion with the Vann Center for Ethics on “Ethics in Government.” The panel featured Charlotte mayor Dan Clodfelter ’72 (the 12th Davidson alum to serve as mayor of Charlotte), Professor of Political Science Susan Roberts and senior political writer for the Charlotte Observer Jim Morrill.

Frankel memorial scholarship reaches $250,000 goal

To honor the memory of John Frankel, a political science major who died in a car accident in upstate New Year on New Year’s Eve 2010, a set of his classmates established the John Frankel Memorial Scholarship. That scholarship fund recently reached its goal of $250,000. The Department congratulates I.S. Dunklin, Kevin Hubbard, Matthew Loftus, and George Stewart for their vision and hard work to make this scholarship happen.
Professor of Political Science Pat Sellers recently took on a new role at Davidson as Vice President for Strategic Partnerships. We sat down with Dr. Sellers to learn about the work he’s doing to expand opportunities for students, faculty and staff to interact with and learn from the world beyond campus.

Q: As the VP for Strategic Partnerships, what is it you do?
PS: The central part of the job is to develop new strategic partnerships between Davidson and individuals and groups outside Davidson, ways that we can work together with other people and other organizations that further both of our interests. Mutual interest is a big part of this. To do this, we have to be very creative and flexible—there’s no single formula.

Q: Can you give us some examples?
PS: We’ve worked for a long time with Carolina’s HealthCare System — with students doing internships, Lance Stell’s class would regularly have activities down there — that’s a long-standing partnership, and we’re trying to expand that. One of the areas of overlapping interest is that they’re very interested in behavioral economics and getting somebody to help bring a behavioral economics standpoint to their projects. The economics department here at Davidson would love to have more behavioral economics courses, so one of the things we’re exploring is a post-doc in behavioral economics funded by Davidson and Carolina’s HealthCare system. It’s a way to help both of us.

Another example is our interaction with Red Ventures (RV), which is sort of like two root systems gradually growing together. There are a lot of different ways that we’re interacting. The traditional way that organizations help Davidson is by giving money, and Red Ventures has given hundreds of thousands of dollars to help fund the athletic center extension. But they also really like Davidson students and would like to hire over 15 students every year.

We’re also interested in doing more general overlaps, particularly in the area of analytics and data analysis. We’ve had some RV people come up to Davidson and hold seminars for students doing analytics projects, really helping our students learn new ways of doing analytics. So they’re helping us up here in that respect, and we’re also trying to send people down there to do talks and learn more about the culture. They’re trying to create almost a college intellectual atmosphere, and from our standpoint, it could help us learn from them about how to be more nimble and how to respond to new developments that come up overnight. Red Ventures is very good at analyzing changes in the marketplace and responding to those. We can learn from them in that respect, to try to make Davidson a more nimble organization.

Q: Just as much as there’s coordination with organizations outside of Davidson, it seems like part of it is also coordinating with organizations inside. How do you manage all those different pieces?
PS: I don’t. [laughs] That’s the funny answer, but it’s also very true, in that I am one of many people pushing all these partnerships forward. I try to keep track of them and help them where I can, but Davidson has too many good people doing too many new and interesting things for one person or even one office to keep track of it. So that’s part of the answer.

The other part of the answer is that ideally I will help initiate some of these partnerships and then let other people take over the management of those partnerships. A good example is our partnership with edX, producing the DavidsonX courses and producing online materials for teachers and students in high school AP classes through our Davidson Next program. I was really involved in the early stages of that process, but the people we hired really are taking on the bulk of that work and pushing that project forward.

Another example is the Digital Studies program. We worked on the grant from the Mellon Foundation that got that started, but since Professor of Digital Studies Mark Sample came to campus he is the person heading up that. I’m not really involved in that initiative in any detailed sense, much to my chagrin, because it’s a really cool project. But, my role is not to administer a lot of projects, but try to develop new projects that benefit Davidson students, faculty and staff.

Q: Coming from being a professor full-time, is that a hard transition to make? In the one case you’re intimately involved in a student’s development from the beginning to the end of a class, while now you kick something off and someone else runs with it. What’s that been like?
PS: It’s been a complicated transition. With the students you teach in your classes, you can have some really positive impacts on their understanding, their knowledge, their skills, their lives. And that’s why a lot of teachers come to Davidson, to work with students; it’s one of the most fulfilling things you can do for a livelihood. Having said that, the other projects I’ve gotten involved with have provided other ways to try to help Davidson. It’s not as immediate and direct as teaching a student how to do a t-test, but arguably you’re having a broader impact across the institution, because the same number of hours of work benefits a lot more people. There’s a real potential in the work I do now to have a broader and more positive impact across the institution, and that’s a nice thing to be able to do. That’s fulfilling. I still miss the interaction with the students, though.

Q: You still teach one course a year?
PS: Yep, one a year.

Q: What is it you miss most about doing that full-time?
PS: Definitely interacting with the students. It’s fun. You talk to any professor, they enjoy interacting with students, whether by teaching them, that’s one type of fulfillment, and one really fun thing to do, but also the non-teaching stuff, that’s also really positive.

Q: Do you feel like there’s something you learned as a professor and as a political scientist that has particularly helped you doing what you do now?
PS: To do this job, you have to have a broad understanding of Davidson and the programs here. It’s important to understand different parts of the curriculum and all the different things the students are interested in, and to draw on those in a creative way to match what other people outside Davidson are interested in doing. There’s a real element of creativity required. You have to find these overlapping interests, which often are not self-evident. I think that creativity is another...
Peter Ahrensdorf presented a paper, “The Contest Between Achilles and David: Homer, the Bible, and the Question of Human Excellence”, at the Northeastern Political Science Association Annual Meeting in Boston in November, and delivered a lecture at the University of North Texas on “Tragedy and Politics in Oedipus the Tyrant” for a graduate seminar at the Department of Political Science, University of North Texas, Denton, Texas, December 5, 2014.

Visiting Professor Nicole Bauer has accepted a tenure track position at the University of Alabama starting in the 2015-16 academic year. Congrats Nicole!

Graham Bullock published an article, “Independent Labels? The Power behind Environmental Information about Products and Companies” in Political Research Quarterly (December 2014). He was awarded a Food and Sustainability Grant from the Davidson Sustainability Program for developing and implementing food and sustainability components for two courses.

Besir Ceka was invited to give a talk on the culture, history, policies, and political systems of Macedonia and Albania for the 92th Civil Affairs Brigade (Airborne) from Fort Bragg, NC, in preparation for the deployment of their Civil Liaison Teams in Eastern Europe. In February, he led a campus event, “A Conversation about Democracy in Europe,” with German Green Party politicians Ekin Deligöz and Kerstin Celina. In March, he joined Professor Lou Ortymayer on a campus panel entitled “Europe in Transition.” Dr. Ceka also traveled to Germany over Spring Break, as part of the part of the German for Economics and Policy (GER 240) study trip, funded by a DRI Group Investigations grant, the Dean Rusk Program and German Studies Department. While in Berlin, Besir Ceka and Scott Denham from the German Department were invited for dinner with Ekin Deligöz (MP in the German Bundestag) and her husband at the Parlamentarische Gesellschaft, the exclusive restaurant and club for Bundestag members and their guests only.

Adjunct Professor Britta Crandall published a book review, “Competitors and Allies: An Insider’s Look At US-Brazil Relations” in H-Net reviews.

Russell Crandall reports that he continues to enjoy his year-long sabbatical, researching the United States in El Salvador during the Cold War. Crandall recently returned from a week research trip to National Archives in College Park, Maryland to review declassified State Department, National Security Council and CIA docsents from the 1970s and 1980s. In 2011, Crandall submitted a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request. After three years, he learned from the Archives that it had declassified 15,000 pages of documents based on his request. Notes Crandall: “The FOIA process is a remarkable component of American democracy in that it provides a legally-binding mechanism for all citizens to request information on what its government is actually doing— not just saying it’s doing.”

Last November Crandall gave a talk for his new book, Americas Dirty Wars, at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in Washington. At least a dozen former students were in the audience, including several who worked on the manuscript. This January Crandall joined the editorial board of Americas Quarterly. The 12-person board includes three former Latin American presidents: Fernando Henrique Cardoso of Brazil, Ricardo Lagos of Chile and Ernesto Zedillo of Mexico, and meets bi-annually in New York to discuss magazine content and mission.


Ken Menkhaus completed a six-month study of conflict trends, political devolution and hydrocarbon exploration in northern Kenya for the Danish Demining Group, funded by the Swiss government. He presented the main findings of that research at the Kenya School of Government in Nairobi, Kenya on March 6. He is now directing a follow-up study for Danish Demining Group, exploring border conflict dynamics across the eastern Horn of Africa, with funding from the UK Department for International Development (DFID).

In November 2014, Menkhaus traveled to London on two occasions, to give a talk at the British Academy “Rethinking State Fragility” conference, to lead a one-day training session on Somalia for the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office and to provide a briefing on terrorism in East Africa for the Statoil annual security conference. Following the release of a new Al Shabaab video, he was interviewed on the BBC, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and other media outlets, and published an op-ed, “Al Shabaab Looking for Attention,” CNN International Edition Opinions (24 Feb. 2015).


Brian Shaw published an article, “Rockin’ the Suburbs: A Review of The New Class Conflict,” in Family Studies, (September 29, 2014)

In Memoriam: Dr. Winfred “Win” Minter, 98

Professor of Political Science Emeritus Dr. Winfred “Win” Manfred passed away at age 98 on November 5, 2014. Dr. Winfred, who earned a Ph.D. at the University of Chicago, taught political science at Davidson from 1957 to 1981. At times he was the only professor of political science at the College, and taught across a wide range of topics. In the last years before his retirement, he participated in the hiring of a generation of faculty who would form the nucleus of the department during its rapid expansion in the 1980s and 1990s, including Harris Proctor, Lou Ortymayer, Mary Thornberry, Tom Kazee, and Brian Shaw.
that question this summer through a course they were trying to launch an initiative, they’ve had to put together a proposal for a faculty meeting or a seminar. For anyone who has ever put together a clear and compelling case, there are so important for being effective in administration. If they were successful, they understand the importance of framing and agenda-setting, and if they were not, they probably should have started thinking about those issues.

Q: What is it political science students can do at Davidson to try to build these kinds of partnerships? What organizations or people or ideas should we be looking for?

PS: In terms of partnerships, students can communicate to the department chair, the administration, and/or me about the issues they’re interested in and organizations outside Davidson that could help them further those interests. I have some ideas about these kinds of things, but the people who are interested in them probably know better than I do about the organizations out there that could help. I’m all ears for the kinds of ideas that could help people in political science.

I think that many students are concerned about getting a job after they graduate. Political science provides a wonderful education in the liberal arts -- in thinking, writing, critical analysis, communication, etc. But if you can supplement those with some technical skills, that makes you a very attractive candidate in a lot of different fields. The most evident type of technical skill is statistical analysis or data analysis. But, I would argue that it’s more than that—going beyond just the straight statistics, there’s data visualization, which is how you display data, and then there’s producing content online and trying to communicate with broader audiences. That’s more than just tweeting and Facebook posts, although some people leverage those media pretty effectively. It’s actually producing substantive content online. With a lot of the public policy debates now, the substantive material and arguments are online; that’s where people go for information. If you can contribute to those, as opposed to just consuming that information, you will be better positioned to lead those debates, instead of just following them.
After a three year stint with Veracity Worldwide doing political risk analysis out of New York and Singapore, Caroline Emch ('11) is now doing investment research at Gerson Lehrman Group (GLG) in Singapore.

Paul Difore ('13) is Project Coordinator at Hunt Global Partnerships of Hunt Consolidated, Inc., engaging in corporate social responsibility work, based out of Dallas, TX.

Jean DeOrellas ('13) is in Washington, DC, interning in the research department of the American Association of University Women. She has recently been accepted into graduate school in interdisciplinary education programs at UVA, University of Washington, Stanford, and UC-Berkeley.

Libby Hubbard Stegger ('08) is based in Minneapolis and is Director of Development at Hiawatha Academies. Her oldest daughter, Thea, will be two in May; the latest addition to the family, Bess, arrived January 27, 2015.

Faheem Rathore ('12) has been accepted to graduate programs at Harvard, Columbia, SAIS, George Washington, and Georgetown.

James Entwistle ('78) currently serves as US Ambassador to Nigeria. Prior to his 2013 appointment, he was US Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Hear him surprise Nigerian listeners with his excellent Pidgin English (a dialect of English spoken by millions of Nigerians) on a Nigeria radio station last year. (We're not actually sure he was a political science major but we've just decided to claim all Davidson alums who are serving as Ambassadors, Mayors or in Cabinet level positions. Take that, history department!)

Matt Petit ('08) is currently serving as a political officer in the US Embassy in Lusaka, Zambia.

Laura Malenas ('93) is Political and Economic Section Chief, U.S. Embassy Muscat, Oman.

Amy Mahar ('08) is an Income Maintenance Caseworker for the Commonwealth of PA.

Ellie Marranzini ('09) is Research and Writing Attorney at the Federal Public Defender’s Office for the District of Puerto Rico, based in San Juan. She married in February, in a ceremony held in Puerto Rico, and had a 22-person contingent of Davidson alums come to the wedding and rent a big house together.

Kelynn Sloan ('12) is working as Call Time Manager for the campaign of Democratic Senate candidate and Missouri Secretary of State Jason Kander, overseeing daily fundraising activities.

L. Marvin Overby ('83) is Professor of Political Science at the University of Missouri. He recently taunted us by sending photos from the Galapagos Island where he spent spring break. Thanks for that Marvin, we still had snow on the ground here.

Chris Hallett ('05) is a Foreign Service Officer currently based in Washington DC.

Bryce Jones ('11) works at CENTRA Technologies Inc in Northern Virginia.

Mike Peters ('91) is a Colonel in the U.S. Army and will assume the role of Assistant Chief of Staff for Operations, NATO Rapid Deployment Corps – Turkey.

Peter Evans ('09) is a medical student at the University of Vermont College of Medicine.

Tanda Witherspoon Bianco ('80) is the Club Manager and USPTA Tennis Professional at Port Royal Racquet Club on Hilton Head Island.

Alan Staggers ('98) is Senior Vice President, BB&T Debt Capital Markets.

Barbara ('81) and Sarah ('11) Griffith are part of an exclusive mother-daughter club – both took courses from Lou Ortmayer at Davidson. Sarah works at a marketing firm in Austin Texas. Barb is an educator in Pittsburgh, is married to Harry Griffith ('80) and they now have four grandchildren.

Mika Nabeshima ('91) and Marshall Adams ('91) send their greetings from Yokohama, Japan and their best wishes to Dr. Ortmayer on his impending retirement.

Eric Sapp ('98) is Founding Partner, Eleison Group, and Executive Director, American Values Network.

John Boswell ('81) is currently the Southeast Bureau Chief for Fox News channel.

Robert Jones ('91) is Federal Magistrate Judge, U.S. District Court in Wilmington, North Carolina.

Leslie Thompson ('04) is Analysis Team Leader, Syria, Bureau of Conflict Stabilization Operations, Department of State.

Mike Anderson ('02) is an attorney at Baucom Claytor in Charlotte.

Kent W. Kercher ('90) is Chief of Minimal Access Surgery and Professor of Surgery in the Division of Gastrointestinal & Minimally Invasive Surgery, Carolinas Healthcare System, in Charlotte.

Kevin Dunn ('89), is Professor and Chair, Department of Political Science, Hobart and William Smith Colleges. He recently published two books, Politics of Origin in Africa and the co-authored Inside African Politics. He would be too modest to say so, but we can attest that these are both important books in the field, congrats! Kevin recently invited Dr. Menkhaus to contribute a chapter to a new book he is editing, a chance for a former Davidson student to turn the tables on a Davidson professor and mark his paper up with suggestions for improvements. Be gentle, Kevin.

David Christopherson ('96) is Senior Vice President & General Counsel, Floor & Décor, in Atlanta, GA.

Laura Beyer Turner ('93) is Chief Bankruptcy Judge for the Western District of North Carolina.

Amy Oakes ('98) is associate professor for teaching excellence at the College of William and Mary. In 2012 she received the College's Alumni Fellowship Award and in 2014 was appointed University Associate Professor for Teaching Excellence. In addition to teaching in the Department of Government and International Relations Program, she is co-di-
rector of the Project on International Peace and Security.

Dan Mojonnier ('97) is Group Program Director at Havas, an ad agency in Chicago.

Dr. John M. Shaw ('82) is a retired Lieutenant Colonel, US Army, and Executive Officer, Operations Directorate, NC National Guard, in Raleigh NC.

Dr. John M. Shaw ('82) is a retired Lieutenant Colonel, US Army, and Executive Officer, Operations Directorate, NC National Guard, in Raleigh NC.

Andrew Kromer ('87) is a CPA in Charlotte.

Ashley Augsburger ('12) is an M.A. candidate in International Economics and International Development at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies, focusing on conflict stabilization and post-conflict reconstruction in the Middle East.

Sun Dragas ('13) is currently in the second year of a master’s program in Southeastern European Studies. She finished her first year at the University of Belgrade in Serbia and is currently studying at the University of Graz in Austria. She reports: “In addition to taking classes and stumbling my way through the German language, I am also working as a student assistant at the Centre for Southeast European Studies. After finishing this semester, I plan to travel to Croatia to do field work on the conceptualization of homeland for Serb refugee returnees that I will eventually incorporate into my master thesis.”

Jouni Eho ('04), CEO of Oxford Research Oy, in Helsinki Finland, was awarded the 2014 Finland Father of the Year Award. Congrats Jouni! For the story, click here. Jouni, who played on the Davidson basketball team, is excited to see fellow Finn Oskar Mickelson doing well as a freshman on the team this year.

Rafael A. Candelario II is a Lt Col in the US Marine Corps and Deputy Chief of Operations, Plans, in the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL). You can see him answer questions about his work on “Ask a Peacekeeper” on Youtube.

Patrick S. Montoya ('97) is a Partner in the law firm of Colson Hicks Eidson in Coral Gables, FL. In late 2013 he was part of a group of plaintiff attorneys that helped a decorated Miami police win a jury award of $2.5 million for pain and suffering, and $1.1 million for lost wages, medical bills, and future earnings, after being struck by an intoxicated motorist while on a police perimeter.

John Patton ('92) has been based in London for 18 years - first to focus on Russia/CIS at Credit Suisse in the late ‘90s, then on a tech business before returning to Merrill Lynch, Deutsche Bank until 2012. He is now the portfolio manager for a hedge fund, Black River Asset Management, in London, focused on special situation investing in Eastern Europe, Middle East and Africa, with particular interest in Ukraine and Russia.

Dane Erickson ('01) is a lecturer at the Graduate School of Public Affairs at the University of Colorado and recently completed a year-long analysis of political and security issues in West Africa in partnership with the Brookings Institution and a network of local researcher partners. He has several recent publications on Africa, including “The Nigerian Crack-Up?” in The American Interest (Feb 2015), and “The Myth of the Militarization of America’s Africa Policy” in The National Interest (Nov. 2014).