UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA

FARBER NEWSLETTER

College of Arts & Sciences

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Herseth Sandlin Shines at Political Science Banquet

By Clay Hoffman

The University of South Dakota had the honor of hosting former Congresswoman Stephanie Herseth Sandlin on Thursday, April 18 when she spoke at the annual Department of Political Science banquet. Her husband, former Congressman Max Sandlin, was slated to speak as well but was not able to make it back to South Dakota from Washington, D.C., due to the weather.

Herseth Sandlin gave an exquisite speech. It was apparent to the audience that the former congresswoman was knowledgeable about the hard science part of political science, or the theories and quantitative facets of political science, which political scientists use frequently in their research.

The first section of her speech revolved around how political science is a soft science compared to biology or chemistry, which are hard sciences. However, a portion of political science does deal with hard science components, such as quantitative factors, which professional political scientists use, as well as soft science components, including qualitative factors. The point of her speech was that political scientists must find a way to create the perfect combination of both. In other words, she said the perfect marriage is to combine theory with public service.

The former Girls State governor also spoke extensively about food security, an area of policy that she has both researched and been involved with as a member of the House Agriculture Committee. Immediately after her term in the House was over, Herseth Sandlin continued to work closely with the agriculture community. The audience learned that food security is a major public policy issue, which is supported by the fact that Herseth Sandlin met with a group of leaders, including Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, whose primary goal was to formulate policy about food security.

The last part of the former congresswoman's speech consisted of a call to action. She impressed upon the crowd that public service is a great career to get into because it is a career where one can make a difference. She was very adamant about making a difference. In addition, she urged her counterparts to read. She stated that it does not matter what one reads. She commented that the book could be about an unfamiliar industry or part of the world. She tried to underscore the importance of intellectual curiosity by encouraging everyone to read.

After her speech, Herseth Sandlin had time to field two questions. One question was about genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and a recent bill that was brought up in Congress. The other question came from a graduate student who asked how to balance a life of public service with children. The graduate student was particularly interested because she had won a seat on the Yankton City Commission the previous week. Herseth Sandlin's answers were well stated, and she explained that it is a tight rope to walk, juggling a career with children; however, she said it can be done based on her own experiences.

Schieffer Scholar Jessie Milstead '13 and Stephanie Herseth Sandlin at departmental awards banquet.

Representative Herseth Sandlin's last duty was to help distribute door prizes with Sandy McKeown, associate professor of political science and coach of the mock trial team. Some of the prizes included turtles as a reminder of Doc Farber because he thought of them as noble creatures for always sticking their necks out. Other prizes included new mock trial calendars and various audiobooks from the Tom Brokaw collection—which were generously donated by the alumnus himself.

The department would like to thank Representatives Max Sandlin and Stephanie Herseth Sandlin for taking time out of their busy schedules to speak. Everyone missed Representative Sandlin; however, everyone understood why he was not able to make it as many in the audience have experienced the dread of a flight delay. Representative Herseth Sandlin gave a great speech that inspired aspiring undergraduate and graduate students to pursue intellectual curiosity and get active. Thank you, Congresswoman Herseth Sandlin.

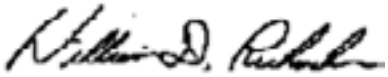
Note from the Chair

As I write this, we are just commencing the fall 2013 semester and still accommodating some of the changes from the end of the last academic year. (Among those accommodations is a slightly late "Spring" newsletter!) We saw several faculty transitions: Tony Molina left for a new position at Kent State, another young faculty member left and Mike Card assumed duties of unknown duration as the interim director of the Continuing Education unit. We were able to hire Dr. Jackie Faulhaber, a long-time and much valued adjunct instructor who has taught online courses for us since 2007, as a one-year lecturer to teach and advise graduate students almost full-time. Meanwhile, we will be searching for at least one new assistant professor for fall 2014.

Appropriately, the full membership of the Executive Board is once again published in this newsletter along with the qualifications for the various categories that confer voting rights. This list of eligible members is updated every fall just before the annual meeting. If anyone suspects that he or she has been erroneously left off this list, please contact Cheryl Hovorka directly at chovorka@usd.edu or 605-677-5702. Cheryl will immediately check with the Foundation to verify eligibility status.

Once again, this newsletter has been produced as both a glossy hard copy and an electronic version that together will go out to approximately 2,000 alumni and friends of the Department. Matt Moen, dean of the College of Arts & Sciences and professor of political science, continues to cover the full cost of publishing the hard copy. We are most grateful for his assistance.

I trust that our many friends will enjoy the issue's stories about domestic and international student trips sponsored by the Farber Fund these past few months. This issue also continues biographical sketches of various alumni as well as of members of the department. If anyone has questions about any of the articles, please do not hesitate to contact me at 605-677-5242 or William.Richardson@usd.edu. As always, please also take a moment or two to see the many activities of the Department and Farber Fund that are regularly updated on our Web pages: www.usd.edu/polsci and www.usd.edu/farberfund.



William D. Richardson, Chair
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USD Mock Trial

by Breanna Helland, Team Captain

This year could not have been more memorable for the USD Mock Trial team. The team excelled year-round and boasted a greater roster than ever before. Team members included Madeline Bruekelman, Charlie Drapeaux, Alex Frank, Ashleigh Giese, Grace Gill, Christina Huckfeldt, Breanna Helland, Amanda Janssen, Zach Koenig, Seth Lopour, Hanna McElroy, Ashley McKeown, Chad Neswick, Rebecca Reiter, Sam Sheffield and Katelyn Steffel. The coaches were Sandy McKeown and Andy Fick.

The season started on a high note and ended in similar fashion. The Mock Trial team won its very first tournament of the year, along with a second tournament, one month later. USD placed in the top five at two other competitions and in the top 10 at three more. One of these top-10 finishes came during the final tournament of the season; the team competed in the Opening Round Championship Series, where it placed ninth, nearly advancing to the National Finals in Washington, D.C.

Beyond its high-place finishes, the Mock Trial team earned a number of accolades. Steffel, Helland and McElroy won Outstanding Attorney awards throughout the year, while Koenig, Janssen and McKeown won Outstanding Witness awards. At Regionals, the team also received the Spirit of the American Mock Trial Association (AMTA) award. This honor is voted upon by peers and awarded to the team that displays the highest level of collegiality, civility and fair play.

USD Mock Trial did everything it set out to do this year and more. The team worked hard in the face of adversity and became a competitive force around the region. The season could not have ended much better than it did, and next year will be an exciting time once again for the Mock Trial team.

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POLS Internships

by Mary Pat Bierle

State Rep. Mark Mickelson, Harry Christianson, State Rep. Fred Romkema, South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard, USD political science intern Tyler Tordsen, State Senate Majority Leader Russ Olson. All are Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity brothers.

This spring 2013 semester saw the Political Science Department well represented in Pierre, S.D. With seven undergraduates involved, USD had interns in both chambers of the state legislature, on both sides of the partisan aisle, and in both the public and private sectors. Serving the House and Senate leadership, as well as various committees, our students learned the intricacies of hearings and amendments, cross-over day and veto day, lobbying and hog housing.

In addition to participating in the well-organized Legislative Research Council internship program, several of our students worked the legislative process from the outside. As assistants to lobbying efforts by the Tieszen law firm, they developed some significant networking skills, in addition to a deeper understanding of South Dakota politics. They also happened to mention that 6 a.m. comes very early, but that is the beginning of a typical day when the legislature is in session.

As always, we are grateful to our Congressional delegation for giving our students the chance to learn basic professional skills in a highly professional environment. Students served this fall and winter in the Washington, D.C., offices of both U.S. Senators Tim Johnson and John Thune. In fact, one of our undergraduates, a military veteran, has been working in Senator Johnson's Sioux Falls office, where he has developed a genuine expertise in negotiating through the bureaucratic maze on behalf of the senator's military constituents.

Finally, one of our students served an internship with the prestigious Heritage Foundation in Washington, D.C. In addition to meeting a variety of VIPs and taking advantage of Heritage's extensive research presentation schedule, he was excited to serve as a volunteer at the 2013 Conservative Political Action Conference (CPAC), where he got a good look at possible 2016 Republican presidential contenders.

The variety of our political science undergraduate internships is only surpassed by the generosity of our alumni who make these experiences possible because of their support for the Farber Fund.

Thank you.

Rome, Florence and Venice: Great Cities of Italy

By Anthony Molina

Between March 1 and 13, 2013, a group of students led by Dr. Anthony Molina of the Department of Political Science participated in a study abroad tour to the Italian cities of Rome, Florence and Venice. The students were part of Molina's Political Science course titled "Rome, Florence, and Venice: Great Cities of Italy," which explored the political, economic and social history of these three fascinating cities. During the course, students examined the rise and contributions of Rome, Florence, and Venice to world culture and civilization with particular emphasis on the political, economic and social dynamics of three key historical periods. The first of these periods was Rome's transition from a republic to an imperial system, dating from the Gracchi (ca. 133 B.C.) to the death of Augustus (14 A.D.). The second of these periods focused on the emergence of Florence as a center of cultural, commercial and political influence under the Medici family during the Renaissance era. Finally, the third of these periods explored the rise and fall of the Venetian empire and its control of trade and commerce across the Mediterranean world during the Middle Ages.

Over spring break, the students travelled to Italy to experience first-hand the political and cultural fabric of these three great cities. Starting its trip in Rome, the group spent several days enjoying guided tours of famous sites such as Vatican City, the Trevi Fountain, the Pantheon, the Colosseum, the Borghese Gallery and the Roman Forum. The stay in Rome also included a day trip to Naples in order to explore the ancient city of Pompeii, which was preserved in ash when Mount Vesuvius erupted in 79 A.D. The group also enjoyed a day trip to the city of Pisa on its way by train to Florence, where it had lunch and got to take in the sites at Pisa's famous Field of Miracles, which includes the iconic leaning tower of Pisa. Once in Florence, the group visited the Medici Palace, the Uffizi Gallery and the Accademia Gallery, which houses Michelangelo's statue of David. En route to Venice, the group stopped for the afternoon in the beautiful northern city of Verona to visit the "House of Juliet," made famous by Shakespeare's play Romeo and Juliet. Once in Venice, the group enjoyed a leisurely tour of the Grand Canal by vaporetto, which is a type of Venetian water-bus. The stay in Venice also included a tour of the Doge's Palace, Saint Mark's Square and the Correr Museum. On their last day of the study tour, the students enjoyed wandering the backstreets and canals of this elegant city.

2013 Farber Memorial Lecture Series Features Thomas Gouttierre, Ph.D.

The Doc Farber Memorial Lecture Series has brought many illustrious and brilliant speakers to the University of South Dakota, and this year was no different. The 2013 speaker was Dr. Thomas Gouttierre of the University of Nebraska-Omaha (UNO). Gouttierre serves as the dean of International Studies and Programs at UNO and is the director of the Center for Afghanistan Studies, the only center of its kind in the entire world. Gouttierre spent nearly 10 years of his life in Afghanistan and now is using his experience to help others learn about the country. However, Gouttierre's knowledge does not stop with Afghanistan. His knowledge of the Middle East and even the Caucasus, is top notch, and USD was fortunate to have him on campus to give a presentation that covered a wide berth of topics.

Since his visit to USD coincided with the terrible bombings at the Boston Marathon, Gouttierre decided to speak briefly about the region where the terrorists came from: the Caucasus, specifically Chechnya. The region has always been a hotbed of turmoil and terrorism, but only after terrorism hit home did Americans start looking at the Caucasus more closely. During his presentation, Gouttierre reviewed the many different ethnic groups that reside in the Caucasus region, showing why the area can be so volatile. Audience members appreciated the fact that Gouttierre was willing to discuss a topic that was relevant to an important current event about which so many wanted to learn. Gouttierre proved himself to be a very resourceful and capable speaker.

Speaking of current events, the majority of Gouttierre's presentation addressed another major string of events that has been progressing for more than two years: the Arab Spring. He covered some of the most important countries involved in the Arab Spring, including Egypt, Libya and Syria, in great detail. The Syrian Civil War has been the most violent conflict to come out of the Arab Spring, and Gouttierre made sure to cover the war fully and answer audience questions about more recent actions and the future of the conflict. Gouttierre did not forget about Afghanistan, the country he knows better than any other country in the world. He offered his opinion on a few questions pertaining to the current status of the country, such as the plan to remove American troops and the country's current relations with Afghanistan. As expected, his knowledge on the Greater Middle East, especially Afghanistan, is outstanding.

In short, Gouttierre's presentation on the Caucasus, the Arab Spring and Afghanistan was very informative. The countries in the Middle East and other surrounding nations have been, currently are, and will continue to be extremely important. It is always important to learn more about regions affecting the rest of the world, and there is no one better to cover the Middle East than Gouttierre. The university hopes that Gouttierre will be back again soon to share more. It is wonderful to see people of his caliber visit the campus thanks to the Doc Farber Memorial Lecture Series.

Do you have Facebook? If so, make sure to "Like" the USD Political Science League, the International Film Series, and the USD PoliSci pages!!

Like us on Facebook

Alumni Spotlight — Maren Colon

Maren Colon is a native of Sioux Falls, S.D., where she attended Lincoln High School and was voted the student with the best school spirit and one of the five most influential women of her class.

With that same spirit, Colon visited the USD campus in April 2004, where she met with Dr. William Richardson, who discussed the political science program with her and her family at length. "I thought it was an extraordinary program with professors who really cared about the well-being of students," Colon recalled.

Colon's passion for politics began in elementary school when she volunteered for Rick Weiland, a Congressional candidate at the time. Through the years, Colon has continued to volunteer for the Democratic Party, including for her favorite gubernatorial candidate, USD's very own President James W. Abbott. In 2004, Colon obtained her first paid political position as a canvasser for Senator Tom Daschle's re-election campaign.

Being heavily involved in organizations like the Student Government Association gave Colon a greater sense of her passion, and she earned her Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) degree in political science and contemporary media and journalism, with a minor in French studies. Although Colon did not benefit from Farber Fund money or trips sponsored by the Political Science Department, she was amazed by the caliber of the professors and the curriculum.

Colon attributes her post-college accomplishments to the overall quality of education she received at USD and her valuable experiences in the Office of Admissions, serving as a student ambassador, orientation team leader and admissions assistant. "I was never an academic award winner, but I knew that if I wanted to be successful, I'd have to work hard and gain valuable experiences through extracurricular activities," noted Colon. "My years at USD made me very well-rounded and adaptable," she emphasized.

Taking the "infamous" fifth-year track, Colon independently found an internship through Vesalius College in Brussels, Belgium. She interned with the Federation of European Direct and Interactive Marketing (FEDMA), a lobbying and communications firm working with the European Union (EU). Directly after Colon's graduation in the summer of 2009, she moved to Washington, D.C., where she was an intern for Ketchum Public Relations Agency and a press intern for Senator Charles Schumer (D-NY).

In April 2010, Colon was hired as an assistant at a distinguished lobbying and consulting firm, Denny Miller Associates, where she assists staff with administrative and legislative tasks such as research, client relations and scheduling. Denny Miller Associates represents a number of companies such as Boeing, SAIC and American Airlines, focusing on areas ranging from defense to aerospace to health care. Working in the lobbying and consulting industry has given Colon the ability to participate in many facets of the political process through fundraising, campaign strategy and the legislative agenda.

School spirit still drives Colon as she serves on the Alumni Association Board of Directors. She also serves on the board of the South Dakota State Society, which is an organization designed to bring South Dakotans living in the Washington, D.C., metro area together. "Staying connected with my home-state values of hard work and respect gives me a better perspective on my professional goals," she confirms. Colon often jokes that her ultimate goal in life is to be like her idol, President James Abbott, and become President of the University of South Dakota.

this newsletter is compiled by: USD Political Science League

www.usd.edu/polsci

Alumni Spotlight — Janet Benton

Janet Benton '03 works as the director of operations and physician services at Unity Hospital, part of Allina Health, in Minneapolis, Minn. A native of Early, Iowa, Benton chose USD because of its strong liberal arts foundation and relatively small class size. Benton was looking for a learning environment that would challenge her academically and where she wouldn't be just another student in a large lecture class. She found that at USD.

Benton came to USD set on majoring in criminal justice with a minor in German, but after her work study assignment landed her in the Political Science Department, and she got to know the faculty, staff, and students there, she decided to add political science and pursue a double major. Upon making that decision, Benton fully embraced the opportunities both departments had to offer. She was an active member of the Criminal Justice Club and Model UN, traveling with the team to Chicago several times. Benton also took on a research and teaching assistant position with Professor Rich Braunstein, which allowed her to participate in various research projects through the Government Research Bureau (GRB), focusing on American Indian Criminal Justice.

While at USD, Benton took part in multiple study abroad programs led by Professor Tim Schorn. With the support of the Farber Fund, Benton traveled to Cuba, London and Italy. "USD gave a small-town girl from Iowa the opportunity to travel the world and experience cultures and people I never would have seen before," Benton says. These experiences, along with the classes she took with Professor Mike Roche, are some of her fondest memories of USD. Specifically, Benton recalls the blending of academics and real-life situations in Professor Roche's Justice and Compassion class. The small group of students selected to participate in this course became close, trusted friends through various community service outings and reflections in class. Benton still carries the lessons she learned in Justice and Compassion and in the study abroad programs with her today and credits Professors Roche and Schorn with giving her the extra push she needed to pursue her goal of attending law school.

Benton graduated from USD cum laude in 2003 with a double major in criminal justice and political science, and a minor in German. She was inducted into the Mortar Board Honor Society and the Golden Key International Honor Society. Upon graduation, she returned to her Iowa roots to attend law school at the University of Iowa. While in law school, Benton was a member of the Equal Justice Foundation, served on the Moot Court Executive Board as a Student Judge and was a semi-finalist in the Baskerville Moot Court Competition. She was also a student writer and note and comment editor for the *Journal of Gender, Race and Justice.* Benton's note titled "Are your Genes Protected?: Federal Legislation and Genetic Discrimination" was published in the *Journal of Gender, Race and Justice* in 2007. Along with her academic activities, Benton also participated in a service trip to New Orleans, La., in 2006 to help rebuild the community following Hurricane Katrina.

In Benton's first year of law school, her eyes were opened to how she could utilize her law degree and the skills she would learn in law school outside of the legal profession. This led her to enroll in a joint degree program, pursuing a master's degree in health administration along with her law degree. As a joint J.D./M.H.A. student, Benton worked as a graduate research assistant in the College of Public Health, supporting research and writing for a study of Governance of Nonprofit Community Health Systems. During this time, Benton was also hired by one of her M.H.A. professors to work as a research associate for his consulting group, Health Economics Consulting Group, LLC, where she conducted legal and health care research on specialty hospitals, managed care organizations, health care spending and patient safety. Benton continued this work until 2009.

Benton graduated from the University of Iowa with her J.D. in 2007 and her M.H.A. in 2008. Not only did she pick up two graduate-level degrees while at Iowa, but she also met and married her husband, Jordan Sheridan. Shortly after graduation, they moved to Minneapolis, where Benton took a job with Allina Hospitals and Clinics, now Allina Health. In nearly five years with Allina, Benton has moved from an administrative fellow role to director of operations and physician services at Unity Hospital, one of Allina's four major metro hospitals in the Twin Cities area. In her role, Benton has operational responsibility for the hospital's bariatrics program, orthopedic and spine programs, and the volunteers and auxiliary. She is also responsible for physician contracts, physician onboarding and outreach, strategic planning and leading the hospital's patient experience work.

Benton credits her time at USD with laying a solid foundation for her career in health care. "I didn't start out at USD knowing that I would end up working in health care," said Benton. "However, the classes I took and the people I met while there instilled in me a strong sense of service and desire to help others. I wouldn't be where I am today without the lessons I learned traveling the world with Professor Schorn and serving other members of the community with Professor Roche. Each experience was unique and challenging in its own way." Benton and Sheridan are currently enjoying life in Minneapolis with their Newfoundland dog, Cindy.

Donald D. Fowler, Public Servant

Donald D. Fowler, a former World Bank executive, died peacefully at his home in Alexandria, Vir., on April 2, 2013. He was 100 years old.

Fowler was born on Nov. 18, 1912, in Elk Point, S.D., the eldest of seven children of Clarence E. and Sophia F. Fowler. He graduated from the University of South Dakota, receiving a B.A. in political science and history in 1935, and an M.A. in political science in 1936. He earned a Phi Beta Kappa key and was a regional runner-up for a Rhodes Scholarship.

Fowler completed postgraduate study at the Maxwell School at Syracuse University, where he received an M.S. in public administration in 1938. He was thereafter employed as a personnel officer for the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) in Knoxville, Tenn., where he met his wife, Elizabeth Archer. After the outbreak of World War II, Fowler entered active duty in the U.S. Army and, after wartime, continued in the active reserves until his retirement in 1972, with the rank of colonel.

Fowler joined the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) in 1946, as one of its first 40 employees. He served, consecutively, as chief of the organization and planning division, personnel director and deputy director of the corporate secretary's office. By the time of his retirement in 1977, the number of employees had grown to 4,000.

As a public administration specialist, Fowler pioneered the design and implementation of structures and operating procedures for new international organizations responsible for aiding reconstruction of the world's war-devastated financial and political institutions. He played a central role in developing the bank's recruitment, training and compensation programs, including the formation of a credit union for employees, where he held the first account until his death.

In hiring professionals who would be both competent and representative of the bank's worldwide membership, Fowler created in the 1950s a search program that championed the selection and advancement of qualified women and African professionals. He represented the bank in recruitment and other duties in more than 50 countries. His influence extended well beyond the Bank because the systems and practices that he instituted became models for other international bodies, including the United Nations.

Fowler pursued a vigorous post-retirement career as a consultant for the West African Common Market, African Development Bank and U.S. Department of Labor. He performed services for his home city of Alexandria, Va., on the Transportation Planning Board, the Commission on Aging and the Joint Arlington/Alexandria Workforce Investment Board. He was honored by the mayor of Alexandria in November 2012 for his distinguished service to the city. He was a member of the Cosmos Club in Washington, D.C., where he served on the new member, library, and finance committees, and was an elder of the Westminster Presbyterian Church.

As a centenarian, Fowler was remarkably active, both mentally and physically. Until an accident in March 2013, he maneuvered, without assistance, throughout his multistory home and over the roads of Alexandria and Washington, D.C. Each week, he sent email blogs on historical, philosophical and current political topics to almost 100 friends and family members. He authored several books, including genealogical works on the Fowler and Archer families and a personal memoir titled *A Life in the Public Service.*

Fowler was preceded in death by his first wife, Gueneth Sidle, in 1938; by his second wife, Elizabeth (Betsy) Archer, to whom he was married for 69 years, in 2011; and by his parents and five of his siblings. He is survived by his three children: Elizabeth Fowler of San Francisco, Calif.; Ann Fowler Henry and her husband, John, of Newton, Mass.; and Donald F. Fowler and his wife, Karen Hannah, of Aarhus, Denmark. He is also survived by a number of grandchildren: Ben Henry and his wife, Karen Robichaud, of Brookline, Mass.; Caroline Henry of San Francisco, California; Samantha Henry of Jersey City, N.J.; and Alice and Emma Fowler of Aarhus, Denmark. Fowler is also survived by several others, including his great-granddaughter, Emilia, of Aarhus, Demark; his brother, John, and John's wife, Margaret, of Elk Point, S.D., and Charlottesville, Va.; and many nieces, nephews, and extended family members.

The family wishes to extend heartfelt thanks and affection to Fowler's home helpers, Viola Lodge, Joan Hopson and Zewditu Bekele.

A memorial service and burial at Arlington National Cemetery will be held at a future date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Donald Fowler Scholarship Fund at Elk Point High School, care of Brian Shanks, superintendent, Elk Point, S.D. 57025, or to the Elizabeth Fowler Music Fund at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Alexandria, Va.