



BATTLEGROUND VOTERS: The 2008 Presidential Election in Florida

by
Michael Martinez



The 2008 election marked several milestones. Hillary Clinton entered the campaign as the first female frontrunner for a major-party presidential nomination, only to lose a long and arduous contest to Barack Obama, whose fundraising and organizational prowess led to his becoming the first African-American presidential nominee of a major political party. John McCain's path to the Republican nomination was more conventional, after early favorite Rudy Giuliani showed why skipping the early primary and caucus states is likely to remain a dubious

strategy. McCain chose Alaska Governor Sarah Palin as the first female Republican vice-presidential nominee, and she and Senator Joe Biden became the first pair of running mates in memory to hail from states with three electoral votes each. In the general election, Obama eschewed public financing, ostensibly so that he could respond to

any "swift boat" attacks that might be launched by independent groups, and to pursue a 50-state strategy in an effort to change the electoral map.

Despite the historic result, 2008 followed some more-or-less usual patterns. The Obama campaign did shrink the GOP's geographic base but, in the end, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Florida remained (as they were in 2000 and 2004) the key battleground states through which McCain would try to mount one last comeback. Also, in deciding how to cast their ballots, Florida voters relied on two of the simplest and most time-tested cues available.

The first cue was partisanship. Among registered voters in a statewide October pre-election survey, Democrats enjoyed a 38-34 percent advantage over Republicans in party identification, with the balance (28%) identifying as Independents or expressing no preference. Democrats were also slightly more loyal in their vote intention, with 92% either preferring Obama or leaning toward him, while 88% of Republican identifiers preferred or leaned toward McCain. In the

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LATIN AMERICAN IMMIGRANTS IN THE NEW SOUTH

By *Philip Williams*



On a recent Saturday morning in Jupiter, Florida, a handful of protestors congregated outside the El Sol Neighborhood Resource Center. They were protesting against what they called the Center's "promotion of illegal hiring practices." Prior to the Center's opening in 2006, immigrant day laborers congregated in the mornings on street corners, waiting for construction and landscaping contractors to hire them. Residents complained about traffic, and many considered the day laborers to be a public nuisance.

In response, the Jupiter Town Council came together with several religious and civic organizations to find a constructive solution to the town's day-laborer issue. In 2005, after two years of intense lobbying by immigrant rights advocates and counter-mobilization by anti-immigrant groups, the Town Council voted to allow Corn Maya (an immigrant advocacy group) and Catholic Charities to use a town building to establish a neighborhood resource center. Today, the El Sol Center offers a safe environment for immigrant workers to be matched with employers and at the same time provides immigrants with a range of services, including English language classes, computer courses, and vocational training.

Although Florida is no stranger to immigration, in many ways Jupiter is a microcosm of what's happening in many communities across the country – a shift that reflects the changing geography of Latin American and Caribbean migration to the United States. In the past, traditional gateway cities like Miami, Los Angeles, and New York received the bulk of new immigrants from Latin America and the Caribbean. Between 1990 and 2000, however, the states with the fastest growing Hispanic population were located in the South: North Carolina (394% growth from 1990-2000), Arkansas (337%), Georgia (300%), and Tennessee (278%). While Florida's growth rate (70%) was lower than some of the other hyper-growth states in the South, 47 of 67 counties experienced increases of over 100%. Most interesting was that the highest growth rates in the Hispanic population were not in Miami-Dade County, but in non-traditional destinations in central and northern Florida.

"New destinations" of Latin American and Caribbean migration has become a hot topic in migration studies. Since 2003, I have been involved in a transnational, collaborative research project bringing together U. S. and Latin America-based scholars to explore the dynamics of immigrant life in non-traditional destinations in the South. Funded by the Ford Foundation, our research team has explored the migration

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Chair's Corner



Stephen C. Craig
Chair
Department of
Political Science

For those of you who may have vacationing on another planet, this was a difficult year for higher education in the state of Florida – and for UF, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Political Science Department in particular. In last year's newsletter, I noted that an external review conducted in January '08 had described Political Science as a "major success story" and urged the university's leaders to continue investing in us as we pursued our goal of becoming a leading department in the South and a top-15 department among public institutions nationwide. Well . . . as you may have guessed, the concept of "investing" has taken on a whole new meaning lately as we've been forced to deal with economic and political realities that often seem to shift from one day to the next.

However, rather than complaining about what we've lost (which isn't all that much compared to many other departments), let me take this opportunity to emphasize what we've gained. First and foremost, we look forward to our first full year with four new colleagues: Michael Bernhard, who joined us in January as the first holder of the Raymond and Miriam Ehrlich eminent scholar chair in international studies; Laura Sjoberg, who has established herself as a leading scholar in the area of gender and international politics; Michelle-Renee Smith, a newly minted Ph.D. from Cornell whose specialty is black political thought and political theory generally; and Dietmar Schirmer, a specialist in European politics who will be a visiting professor under the auspices of the German Academic Exchange Service.



In addition, it has been another outstanding year for our faculty both in the classroom and professionally. Philip Williams, for example, was recently appointed director of UF's Center for Latin American Studies; Larry Dodd was chosen vice president-elect and Ido Oren became vice president of the Southern Political Science Association and the International Studies Association, respectively; and Sharon Austin received the Erika Fairchild Award (for her scholarship, mentoring of students, and collegial spirit) from the Women's Caucus of the SPSA. Faculty members also were asked to share their expertise with colleagues, students, and the general public at locations throughout the United States and around the world, including University of Minnesota (Aida Hozic), University of Chicago (Ido Oren), Yale University (Ken Wald), Oxford University (Les Thiele), University of Cape Town in South Africa (Staffan Lindberg), the Caucasus Research Resource Center-Armenia (Bryon Moraski), Central European University in Budapest (Ben Smith), and many others. Finally, I would like to congratulate Dan O'Neill and Beth Rosenson for having been awarded tenure and promotion to Associate Professor in Spring '09, and Michael Martinez, who was promoted to Full Professor.

There are numerous other achievements (teaching accolades, books and articles published, grants received, civic contributions) that deserve recognition, but there is not enough room here for me to give everyone his or her due. Suffice it to say that, at a time of uncertainty and diminishing resources, the Political Science Department continues to do its job, and to do it very well. As I begin my final year as department chair in '09-'10, I am confident that we will weather the storm and emerge stronger than ever.

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trajectories and settlement patterns of Brazilian, Guatemalan, and Mexican immigrants in Deerfield Beach, Pompano Beach, Jupiter, and Immokalee, Florida. Our research focused on three interconnected clusters of questions: (1) the obstacles immigrants confront in building collective solidarity within a climate of growing anti-immigrant sentiment; (2) the multiple roles that religion plays in facilitating immigrant incorporation; and (3) the extent to which immigrants in new destinations sustain transnational connections with their communities of origin while at the same time trying to carve out new spaces of livelihood in the United States. The results of the first phase of our study are contained in a recently published book, *A Place to Be: Brazilian, Guatemalan, and Mexican Immigrants in Florida's New Destinations* (Rutgers University Press 2009).

With another major grant from the Ford Foundation, for the past two-and-a-half years our research team has been studying the same immigrant groups in the metro Atlanta area. The Latino population in metro Atlanta has grown at a remarkable rate over the past fifteen years, presenting significant challenges for schools, churches, and civic organizations. The project is particularly concerned with the role that religious congregations play in mediating this transformation, serving as spaces of encounter, cooperation, and sometimes conflict. In this second phase of the study we've focused on the impact of recent large-scale migration on inter-ethnic relations. Unlike some of the new destinations we examined in Florida, Atlanta has a deeply entrenched black-white racial hierarchy. The rapid influx of Latino immigrants threatens to destabilize this traditional biracial order and to produce conflict and public hostility towards immigrants. The ways in which political, religious and civic leaders and organizations respond to new immigrants will have an important impact in determining the outcome of these processes.

We plan to present the results of our latest research at a conference in Atlanta in March 2010. The idea is to bring together Atlanta-based academics, activists, religious leaders, and policymakers interested in the city's changing demographics and the consequences of these changes for inter-ethnic relations. We want to highlight already existing best practices and pastoral models for engaging inter-ethnic relations, and to build networks among the academic, faith, social-services, and advocacy communities around the issues of cultural and religious diversity. Our hope is that the conference will serve as an important first step in contributing toward a more informed local and national dialogue on immigration reform.

*If you are interested in learning more about the project, please visit our website:
<http://www.latam.ufl.edu/NewFordProjectSite/index.shtml>*

The Partisan Interview:

paul
d'anieri

Kristine Zooberg: What attracted you the most about coming to UF?

D'Anieri: The faculty. I came for the interview and was really impressed with the quality of conversations I had with faculty members all across the College. Even before the interview, the first thing I did when I was asked to apply for the job was to look at the faculty of Political Science because that's my field, and I thought it would be the best way for me to get a sense of what the place is like. I was very surprised to see that UF was so much better than what I knew. In my field, which is the former Soviet Union, UF has several great young scholars that I knew of but didn't realize were here. Then when I started looking at fields outside my own to see what people had done, I thought, "Wow, this is a strong department." Reputation lags a long time behind performance with colleges – but when reputation catches up with performance, we'll be seen as a national leader.

KZ: What experiences have you had as a political scientist that prepared you for the responsibilities of being Dean of CLAS?

D'Anieri: There's a lot you learn when studying political science and politics that prepares you well for being Dean, although there have been good deans from almost every discipline and everyone brings something to the table. But, especially with my work in international relations, I think a lot about strategy. You can define politics in lots of ways, but much of it is about making choices. And that's what being Dean is about. So the time I've spent thinking about strategy and choices has been very useful. And in the political science that I studied, there was also an overlap working with economics – and, of course, that's what deans spend all their time on: money. Essentially, you're trying to lead a public institution, and in one way or another that's what we study a lot in politics.

KZ: Compared to your last job, what similarities and differences have you found in this new position?

D'Anieri: There are basic substantive and structural similarities between CLAS at the University of Kansas and the one here at UF, so the basic missions and the basic problems we face are very comparable. The biggest difference is that the quality of the University of Florida – of the students, the faculty, and the alumni – is so high. Right now in the short term, the budget is a much bigger problem at UF. But, the thing that keeps me moti-

vated through this budget crunch is focusing on the fact that regardless of what happens with the budget, the quality of what goes on here may be diminished, but it will still be very good.

KZ: Do you see things getting better any time soon?

D'Anieri: No. Maybe I shouldn't say it so casually because I don't claim to be able to predict the future. I think this country has spent 30 years building an unsustainable economic situation and, quite frankly, an unsustainable public finance system. It's going to take more than just a little hiccup to unravel all the unsustainable things that have been happening. That said, within the parameters of the problems we face right now, the government in Washington has done more or less what they need to do with the stimulus package. How that will play out will have to be seen. The big question, though, which has yet to be resolved, is whether this country overall can come up with a growth model that is not based on debt and is sustainable.

KZ: What have you enjoyed the most or what has been the most satisfying?

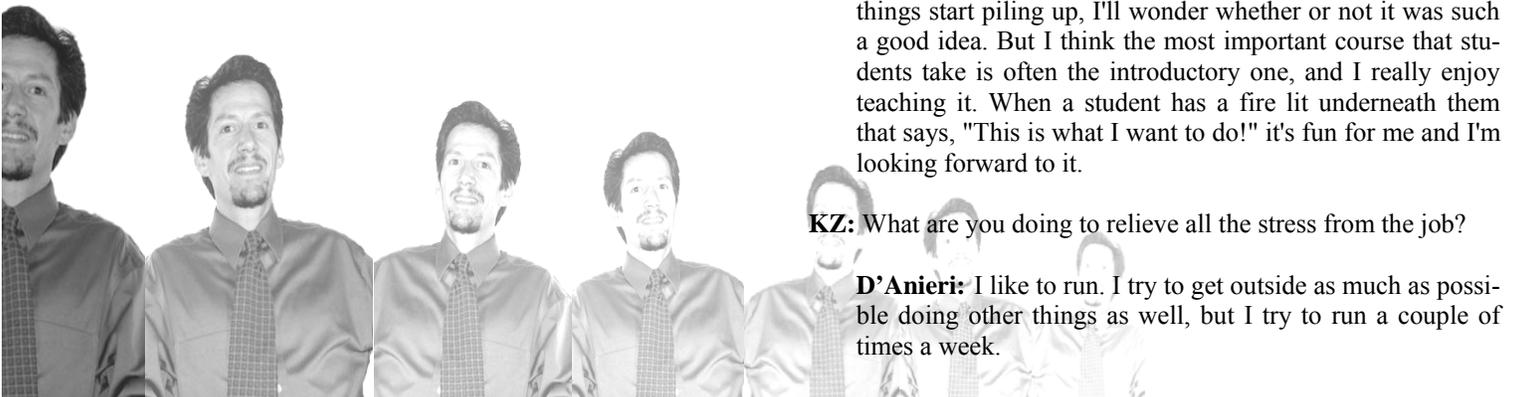
D'Anieri: The faculty, the students, and the alumni! All those things I enjoy. We look at universities, especially in Florida, and see how beautiful the campuses are with the buildings and football stadiums, and so on, but universities are ultimately about people. They're driven by the quality of the people, and that's what I enjoy the most. One of the fun things I've been able to do is go for a cup of coffee with faculty members from, say, the Political Science department such as [Professor Bryon] Moraski, just to talk about post-Soviet politics. That's really enjoyable for me.

KZ: Not everyone in your position teaches, but you'll be back in the classroom this fall for INR 2001 (Introduction to International Relations). Tell me about that.

D'Anieri: I can't wait! I love to teach, and I love doing research as well. I was just at a conference this week and I miss being actively involved in research. But probably the motivation to teach undergraduates is what drove me into the field in the first place, because I knew that I loved teaching before I knew that I loved research. So I'm really excited. Sometime in the middle of the fall semester when things start piling up, I'll wonder whether or not it was such a good idea. But I think the most important course that students take is often the introductory one, and I really enjoy teaching it. When a student has a fire lit underneath them that says, "This is what I want to do!" it's fun for me and I'm looking forward to it.

KZ: What are you doing to relieve all the stress from the job?

D'Anieri: I like to run. I try to get outside as much as possible doing other things as well, but I try to run a couple of times a week.



ZACH SELDEN'S



NATO Adventure

Zach Selden has been on leave from the Department since January 2008, serving as Deputy Secretary General for Policy at the NATO Parliamentary Assembly (NATO PA). The NATO PA is an international organization that brings together members of parliament from NATO member



countries to discuss security issues and build consensus across the Alliance. Zach oversees the work of the NATO PA's five committees and manages its outreach program with developing parliaments outside NATO. He also serves as a policy adviser to the NATO PA's leadership, currently headed by U. S. Congressman John Tanner (D-Tennessee). One of Zach's current main projects is assisting the NATO PA's leadership in developing their input to the new NATO Strategic Concept. This document will be under development through the end of 2010 and will guide the Alliance for the next decade.

Zach still finds some time to write on the side. He has a forthcoming article in the *Journal of Common Market Studies* that compares the development of the European Union's security policy with that of the United States in the late 19th century, and is working on another piece on the implications of shifting alliance patterns in Eurasia.

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November post-election survey, we see the more usual pattern of slightly stronger Republican partisanship in the voting booth: 92% of Republican voters cast ballots for McCain, while Obama retained the support of 89% of Democratic voters in our sample. But that's not much of a difference, especially considering that the Democratic loyalty to Obama followed a tough and grueling nomination struggle (in which all major Democratic candidates bypassed Florida's controversial January primary) that resulted in the first major-party candidacy of an African-American. The vast majority of voters cast ballots along partisan lines, leaving the balance of power in the hands of Independents.

The second cue that shaped people's votes was the incumbent president. George W. Bush left office as the most unpopular retiring president in over fifty years: 84% of respondents in our October survey felt the country was on the "wrong track," 57% *strongly* disapproved of the president's job performance, and 58% said that the United States had made the wrong decision to use military force in Iraq. Among the majority of Floridians who strongly disapproved of Bush's performance, 82% preferred Obama in the pre-election survey. McCain, in contrast, was backed by 88% of those who either strongly or somewhat approved of Bush – a figure that would be more impressive except that it represented *less than* 30% of the state's registered voters.

Both candidates maintained that the 2008 election represented the clearest choice on issues in a generation; accordingly, they differed on (among other things) the approach that government should take in providing services, reconciling the demand for energy with environmental protection, and regulating abortion. In general, it appears that these issues shaped voters' choices through their evaluations of President Bush and their partisan loyalties. That is, most of those who favored restricting access to abortions, more offshore drilling, and fewer government services identified as Republicans and expressed relatively favorable evaluations of the president, whereas voters who favored abortion rights, opposed offshore drilling, and supported increased government services tended to be more Democratic and less positive toward the incumbent. None of these issues outweighed the importance of how Floridians felt about the president in shaping their election-day choices. Despite McCain's protestations that "I'm not President Bush," for all intents and purposes Floridians voted as if he were. In a nutshell, that is why Barack Obama carried Florida's 27 electoral votes and won the presidency.

This is a condensed version of a paper that originally appeared in Florida Focus, which is available at http://www.bebr.ufl.edu/system/files/FloridaFocus+5_2_2009.pdf

CONGRESSIONAL PROFILES The UF CONNECTION

Two graduates of the Political Campaigning Program have taken their UF experience to Washington, D.C. as members of the U.S. House of Representatives. **Debbie Wasserman Schultz** (D, class of 1990), first elected in 2004 to represent Florida's 20th Congressional District, rose rapidly within the ranks of her party's leadership. She currently serves as Chief Deputy Whip for the Democrats, and also as a member of the important Appropriations and Judiciary Committees in the House. During the 2008 presidential election, she served as national co-chair for Hillary Clinton and then later as a surrogate for Barack Obama in the fall campaign. In addition to her legislative interests (many of which involve issues affecting children and families), she is a recent cancer survivor who works hard to increase awareness and provide help for women who face similar struggles. Debbie has been married for 17 years, and lives in Weston with Steve Schultz and their three children.



Tom Rooney (R, class of 1996), became one of the few bright spots for the GOP in 2008 when he defeated incumbent Tim Mahoney for the right to represent Florida's 16th Congressional District. After leaving UF, he attended law school and subsequently served for four years as a member of the U.S. Army JAG Corps and, in 2002, as instructor at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. After leaving active duty and returning to Florida, Tom worked as assistant attorney general under Charlie Crist, as CEO of "The Children's Place at Home Safe" (a home for abused and neglected children), and as an attorney in private practice. In Congress, he serves on the House Armed Services and Judiciary Committees and has sponsored legislation that focuses on improved services for soldiers and veterans, homeowner protection, and efforts to strengthen local law enforcement. Tom and his wife, Tara, reside in Tequesta with their three young sons.



sustainability. *in* . ACTION

This spring semester, **Professor Les Thiele** taught the inaugural capstone course for the new undergraduate minor in Sustainability Studies. The course, Sustainability in Action, is designed to help students integrate the diverse forms of knowledge gained during their coursework for the minor through practical experience in internships, service learning projects, and independent research. The course aims to create a sense of civic empowerment, develop collective action and workplace experience, and foster social and technical skills that will prove useful for students in their future careers.



Leslie Paul Thiele

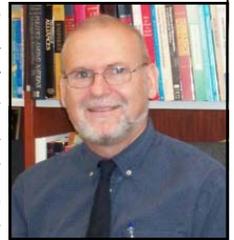
Students in Sustainability in Action meet twice a week for the first three weeks of the semester while their internships and service learning opportunities are initiated. At this time, they explore historical and contemporary examples of individual and collective action in the arenas of environmental protection, social justice, and sustainable economic enterprise. During the following eleven weeks, students are involved in their internships, service learning opportunities, and independent projects.

This year, students are working at an organic farm in a community for special-needs adults, two local sustainability civic groups, a local alternative media center, a local green business, and two independent efforts to foster sustainable behavior and reduce carbon emissions among students and alumni.

During the last two weeks of the semester, students return to the classroom to present accounts of their learning experiences and accomplishments.

Study of the United States Institute on U.S. Foreign Policy

The second annual Study of the United States Institute on U.S. Foreign Policy commenced on June 8 and ended on July 17, 2009. The Institute's theme—"Domestic Sources of U.S. Foreign Policy: Beyond the Beltway, Behind CNN"—was incorporated into a four-week academic residency program in Gainesville, Florida, and two weeks of study tours in three economically, demographically, and geographically diverse loci of foreign policy-making: Miami, Chicago, and Washington, D.C. Additionally, the Institute program included daylong visits to Tampa, Orlando, Tallahassee, and historic St. Augustine. Participants learned from more than 30 experts in international affairs and U.S. politics, including scholars, diplomats, political leaders, lobbyists, and activists. The objectives of the Institute are that participants will acquire a solid grasp of competing analytical perspectives on U.S. foreign policy; gain knowledge of classic and recent writings on U.S. foreign relations; develop an appreciation for



By Ido Oren

the complexity of the foreign policy-making process and the important role played by actors "beyond the beltway"; and last but not least, acquire an enhanced understanding of the working of the U.S. academic and philanthropic foundation system, especially in the area of international studies.



INAUGURAL OPTIMISM

Parris Baker

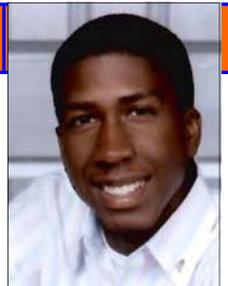
Dr. Sharon Austin organized a trip for University of Florida students to attend the inauguration of President-Elect Barack Obama. Political Science major Parris Baker recounts his Inauguration Day experience.

To this day I look at January 20, 2009 with fond memories. Washington, D.C. often bubbles with cynicism, but on this day Capitol Hill buzzed with enthusiasm. During my experience at the Washington Center's Presidential Inauguration Seminar, I gained an optimism concerning the good human beings are capable of. The culminating moment of my 12 days in D.C. was certainly Inauguration Day. However, the lessons learned throughout the course of the seminar only bolstered the experience.

In the series of sessions and small group discussions during the Inauguration Seminar, it seemed as though every speaker addressed the significance of Barack Obama's election. Without fail, many mentioned how much of a privilege it was to be alive and in D.C. during this historic moment. My sense of gratitude for our country never left me, even as I endured fatigue from the seminar's jam-packed agenda. In addition to comments about the historic nature of President Obama's election, the speakers also examined the relationship between politics and the media, the effect the media had on the election, and the transition of power from one president to another. The lineup of speakers was impressive as well. Respected journalist Ted Koppel, ABC News veteran Sam Donaldson, former ABC news anchorman Steve Bell, Pulitzer winner Clarence Page, and many others spoke to us.

While the speakers were admirable, Inauguration Day was the highlight of my trip. Now, let me depict the situation. I got on the Metro train at 4:10 in the morning and once I arrived in downtown D.C., tens of thousands of people were already waiting in line. Besides the swarming mass of people, there was some confusion about where everyone should be. On top of that, it was beyond freezing. Such a situation might have been a recipe for disaster had it not been for the level of camaraderie and congeniality in the air. It was moving to see the amount of cooperation and willingness with which people helped one another. For example, in a crowd of thousands, one's frontal visibility is limited to about two feet, meaning one could trip over a curb or run into a fire hydrant if not careful. However, the admonishments from people ahead always gave warning about an upcoming curb or fire hydrant. The neighborliness among the crowd was staggering. The bonding and fellowship we all shared before the inauguration makes the word "crowd" seem inappropriate for what we were. We transcended that word. It was just us anticipating a historic moment.

I cannot underestimate the impact this trip had on me. I'd like to thank Dr. Sharon Austin and everyone else who helped make this event available to students from the University of Florida. I'll never forget the life lesson I learned from that trip.



new faculty faces

Michelle-Renee Smith will begin in Fall 2009 as Assistant Professor of Political Theory. Michelle received her doctorate from the Government Department of Cornell in July of this year. Her dissertation, entitled *Theorizing the Real, Unburdening the Possible: Self-Representation and Cosmopolitanism in the Political Theory of Alain Locke*, examines the contributions of Alain Locke to democratic and cosmopolitan theory. Michelle's teaching and research interests include Contemporary Democratic Theory, Black Political Thought, and Critical Theory. In the Fall, she will be teaching two courses: "Black Political Thought" and "Hip Hop and Western Political Thought." Originally an Africana major as an undergraduate, Michelle explains her decision to pursue political science: "I realized that oppression, exclusion, discrimination and even racial violence are shared problems."



Laura Sjoberg will begin as Assistant Professor of International Relations at Florida in Fall 2009. She received her doctorate in 2004 from the University of Southern California and a J.D. from the Boston College Law School in 2007, and most recently held the position of Assistant Professor at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Laura is the author of *Gender, Justice, and the Wars in Iraq* (2006), and *Mothers, Monsters, Whores: Women's Violence in Global Politics* (with Caron Gentry, 2007). In Fall 2009, she will be teaching "Introduction to International Security" and "Gender and International Relations." Laura explains that she wants students to "come away understanding that gender is more than anatomy, and that international politics is deeply and fundamentally built around socially constructed gender stereotypes and gendered power."

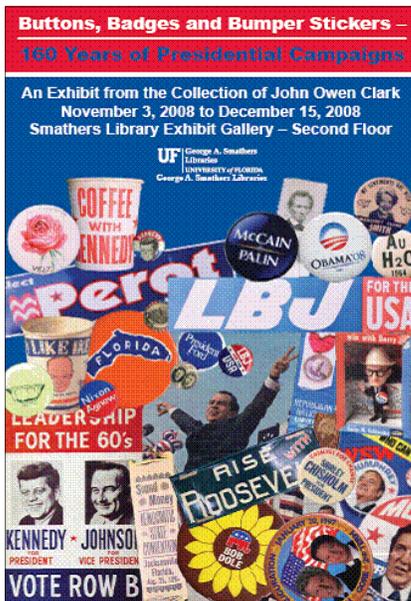


Michael Bernhard holds the Raymond and Miriam Ehrlich Eminent Scholar Chair. Michael specializes in comparative politics. His interests include democratization, development, comparative historical analysis, and European politics. His main lines of research have included the role of civil society in processes of democratization, the political economy of democratic survival, the politics and ramifications of institutional choice in new democracies, and paths from dictatorship to democracy in late-democratizing European countries. He is currently working on papers on the role of the state in development, the impact of revolution on the state's war-making capacity, the effect of how democracy is measured on findings in the literature on regimes and conflict, and the legacies of fascism and communism for democratic political systems.



This past year was an exciting one for the Graduate Program in Political Campaigning, due in large part to the tremendous success of our many graduates, the skilled practitioners who taught our applied politics courses, and the generous support of friends of the Program. Most notably, Tom Rooney (class of '96) was elected to the U. S.

The Year in Campaigning



House of Representatives from Florida's 16th Congressional District. Tom joins alumna Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz (class of '90) in Washington. In Gainesville, our 16 campaigning students took courses with talented adjuncts David Wolfson (campaign management), David Hill (strategy), Damien Filer (earned media), and Guy Cecil (paid media). Finally, contributions from supporters allowed us to provide partial assistantships to five students, and to recognize Christy Bainer as the Walter G. Campbell Leadership Award winner as Campaigner of the Year. In the fall, students helped to organize an exhibit, "Buttons, Badges and Bumper Stickers," featuring

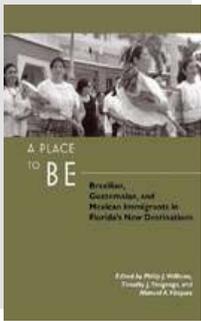
the political memorabilia collection of John Owen Clark (see picture). They also assisted with a January conference, "Reflections and Projections: Election Conference 2009," which featured commentary on the '08 election and a look ahead to '10 from a variety of academics, consultants, and political journalists.

Elections and Democracy Workshop

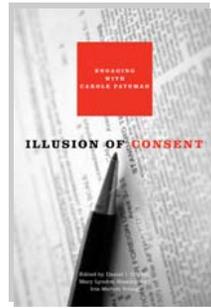
For three weeks this summer in Ghana, West Africa, Professor Daniel Smith and UF alumnus Kevin Fridy (2005 Ph.D.) co-led a workshop on the broad topic of Elections and Democracy at the University of Ghana, Legon. The workshop, which was underwritten by a generous grant from the Mellon Foundation and spearheaded by the American Political Science Foundation, brought together two dozen African political scientists teaching at universities across the continent and four American-based Ph.D. students (including one UF student, Keith Weghorst). Each week, the program consisted of plenary and small-group discussions on scholarly readings, guest speakers, research presentations, collaborative research efforts, and site visits to the National Electoral Commission, political party headquarters, and Parliament. They also found time for some extracurricular activities, including field trips to a slave castle in Elmina, shopping for Asante Kente cloth in Kumasi, swimming in Lake Bosomtwe, and dancing the night away at Jokers Nightclub (located across the street from the La General Clinic that President Obama visited while they were there). Participants will have the chance to publish a research précis on their work in a forthcoming issue of the journal *PS: Political Science and Politics*.



Daniel Smith



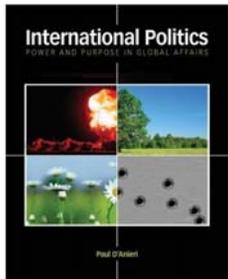
Philip J. Williams, Timothy Steignenga, and Manuel Vasquez. 2009. *A Place to Be: Brazilian, Guatemalan, and Mexican Immigrants in Florida's New Destinations*. Rutgers University Press. \$25.95



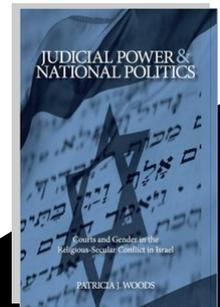
Daniel I. O'Neill, Mary Lyndon Shanley, and Iris Marion Young (eds.) 2008. *Illusion of Consent*. Penn State Press. \$55.00



Lawrence C. Dodd and Bruce I. Oppenheimer. 2008. *Congress Reconsidered: Ninth Edition*. CQ Press. \$59.95



Paul D'Anieri. 2009. *International Politics: Power and Purpose in Global Affairs*. Wadsworth Publishing. \$72.49



Patricia J. Woods. 2008. *Judicial Power and National Politics: Courts and Gender in the Religious - Secular Conflict in Israel*. State University of New York Press. \$75.00

book corner

NOTE - WORTHY: Graduate Student News

- **Dustin Fridkin** co-authored an article published in the *American Political Science Review* with Professor Daniel Smith. Entitled, "Delegating Direct Democracy: Interparty Legislative Competition and the Adoption of the Initiative in the American States," the article appeared in the August 2008 issue.
- **Lance Bardsley** was selected as a Hansard Research Scholar and assigned to work with a member of the British Parliament.
- **Magda Giurcanu** received a 2009 Haas dissertation summer fellowship (to support her research in Paris and Bucharest) from the European Union Studies Association.
- **Aaron Hale** was awarded a Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship.
- **Abdourahmane Idrissa** won a postdoctoral fellowship (to spend one year at Oxford University and a second at Princeton) from the highly competitive Global Leaders Fellowship Programme.
- **Marissa Silber's** paper on presidential-congressional relations was chosen as the Best Graduate Student Paper presented at last year's Florida Political Science Association annual meetings.
- **Iran Rodrigues** received a grant from the National Science Foundation to support his dissertation research in Brazil.
- **Jay Maggio's** review essay of Benjamin Arditi's *Politics on the Edges of Liberalism* appeared in *Theory and Event* (no. 4, 2008).
- **Sean Walsh's** article, titled "The Subversion of Eros: Dialectic, Revolt, and Murder in the Polity of the Soul," was published in *Crime, Media, Culture* (August 2008).
- **Joseph Kraus** gave an invited presentation, "The Impacts of Corporate Social Responsibility on State Institutions and Governance in Equatorial Guinea," at an international conference hosted by Hofstra University in April 2009.
- **Levy Odera** won the Department of Political Science Award for Best Graduate Student Paper.
- **Winifred Pankani Lindberg** won the Dr. Barbara Noreen Roth memorial Award.
- The James W. Button Memorial Award was shared by co-winners **Joseph Kraus** and **Martin Maldonado**.
- **Christine Bainer** won the Honorable Walter G. "Skip" Campbell Leadership Award in Political Campaigning.

Thank you to our alumni and friends for your support!

Through contributions from alumni and friends of the Department, we've been able to support undergraduate and graduate students' travel to political science and policy conferences, a dynamic speakers series, awards for our best student papers and theses, and building our library collection. If you receive a letter or phone call asking for your support - please participate. If you did not receive either of these appeals, you can send your investment in the programs directly to:

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