

The Burdine Chronicles

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Letter from the Chair

John Alton Burdine, 1905-1967, was a professor of Government, vice president of the American Political Science Association, vice president of the University, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, and associate dean of the Graduate School. The 60th Texas Legislature adopted a resolution honoring Dr. Burdine's "decency, intellectual honesty, kindness, integrity, and courage." In 1970, the university dedicated Burdine hall in his name, and the Department of Government moved in.

At the time, Burdine Hall was the newest classroom-office building on campus and for many years nicely accommodated the needs of the department. But, the five-story (plus basement), tan brick building

could only hold us for so long. As the department grew – we are now the largest department in the College of Liberal Arts in terms of undergraduate majors – we needed new space to grow in, and we got it. In May 2006 the department moved to the renovated Batts and Mezes Halls, in the heart of campus, on the east side of the ‘six pack’ on the university’s South Mall.

The move from everyone’s favorite brick compound to some of the most desirable accommodations on campus is emblematic of the greater transformation the department finds itself in. Things have really taken off the last decade, and we continue running on all cylinders. The most obvious change is in the composition of the faculty. Under former chair John Higley and in my first three years in that office, the department has hired well over thirty new colleagues. Several of these occupy endowed positions. Gary Jacobsohn is the McDonald Chair, Tom Pangle holds the Long Chair, Bryan Jones is the holder of the J.J. “Jake” Pickle Chair, and Kurt Weyland is the Lozano Long Professor of Latin American Politics. Other endowed positions are held by Melvin Hinich, John Higley, Zoltan Barany, Jeffrey Abramson, and Patricia Maclachlan. We are especially excited about our very productive corps of junior and tenured associate faculty, the most recent of which are Terry Chapman, Pat McDonald, George Gavrilis, Andrew Karch, Stephen Jessee, Eric McDaniel, William Hurst, Itty Abraham, Kenneth Greene, Zachary Elkins, Jason Casellas, Tasha Philpot, Jason Brownlee, Sam Workman, and Juliet Hooker.

The move to Batts and Mezes has also allowed us to provide much more usable space for our burgeoning research institutes, such as the Experimental Political Behavior and Communication Laboratory, the Public Policy Institute, and the TIGER data archive on terrorism, insurgents, and guerrillas. And, Bryan Jones has brought his Policy Agendas Project with him from the University of Washington, along with Sam Workman, who is managing the project and will be assistant professor in the fall.

But, for all the changes going on, many faculty members spent the better parts of their career in Burdine Hall, and many of you earned your doctorates while holding court in those hallways and classrooms. We feel that Burdine Hall and the Department of Government will forever be enmeshed, and that everyone who passed through those doors carries a piece of that building around with them today. And so, I dedicate these Burdine Chronicles to you, as the Department of Government’s Ph.D. alumni newsletter.

Sincerely,

Gary P. Freeman, Chair

Texas Reception at the Midwest Political Science Association Annual Conference

The Midwest Political Science Association annual conference is April 2-5 in Chicago. The Texas [Reception](#), which we co-host with Rice University, Texas A&M University, and the University of Houston, will be at 10 p.m. on Friday in the Adams Room. We have sent personal invitations to those alumni on the preliminary conference program. If we missed you or if you are in the vicinity please attend. We hope to see you there.

New Website Coming This Year

The Department will be launching a fresh website later this year. One enhancement will be a new Google [Map](#) of where our Ph.D. alumni are. We hope this map will serve as the foundation of a professional network for our alumni and current graduate students. We will embed the map in the new

website once it is launched. Please help us keep it current and accurate! E-mail our Alumni Coordinator, [Stuart Tendler](#), with any comments or questions.

Research Facility Update

The Experimental Political Behavior and Communication Laboratory was established in 2007 to provide Department of Government scholars with a state-of-the-art venue for testing causal relationships between media and campaign messages and the political attitudes of individuals. Graduate students and faculty from the department and others within the College of Liberal Arts have performed experiments to test a wide range of hypotheses, including racial attitudes, immigration policy, and Internet usage. The laboratory provides facilities and software for all phases of experimental research, from stimulus and questionnaire design, to subject administration to data analysis. For more information contact [Tasha Philpot](#), faculty supervisor, or [L. Matthew Vandenbroek](#), graduate student coordinator.

The [Public Policy Institute](#) hosted its latest conference last month, in conjunction with the University of Toronto, on the “Dynamics of Public Opinion on Immigration in the U.S. and the West.” The PPI will hold its next conference April 24-25 on “Latinos and the 2008 Elections.” The University of Notre Dame Press will publish *Beyond the Barrio: Latinos and the 2004 Elections* later this year. Contact [David Leal](#) for more information about the PPI.

Bryan Jones has brought his [Policy Agendas Project](#) to Austin from Seattle. Read more about Jones and the Project [below](#).

Ami Pedahzur is currently transforming his Terrorists, Insurgents, and Guerrilla Education and Research website – [T.I.G.E.R.](#) – into a research lab.

Texas Politics

The Texas Politics project has released new polling data available for instructional and public use. [Read more ...](#)

Faculty Updates

Bryan Jones has been hired as the first occupant of the J.J. “Jake” Pickle Chair in Congressional Studies. Jones has also been selected to serve as the Midwest Political Science Association President.

[Read more ...](#)

Daron Shaw will receive the 2009 Outstanding Graduate Teaching Award.

[Read more ...](#)

Peter Trubowitz has been appointed to the APSA Task Force on U.S. Standing in World Affairs.

[Read more ...](#)

Recent Books by Faculty

2009 Book Publications:

Jeffrey Abramson: [Minerva's Owl: The Tradition of Western Political Thought](#)

Juliet Hooker: [Race and the Politics of Solidarity](#)

Ami Pedahzur: *The Israeli Secret Service and the Struggle Against Terrorism*

Patrick McDonald: *The Invisible Hand of Peace: Capitalism, The War Machine, and International Relations Theory*

2008 Book Publications

Recent Post-docs and Fellowships

Steve Bilakovics has accepted an appointment as a post-doctoral fellow in political theory at Yale University, to begin this fall. Steve currently has a visiting appointment at the University of Pittsburgh. While finishing his dissertation, Steve was a teaching fellow at Harvard University, where he twice won the Derek Bok Teaching Prize.

Zoltan Barany has been reappointed by the Hoover Institution as a 2008-09 W. Glenn Campbell and Rita Ricardo-Campbell National Fellow and the Susan Louise Dyer Peace Fellow. Barany is currently writing a 28-case comparative study about building democratic armies.

Recent Job Placements

David Albert – Austin Community College

Neal Allen – College of Saint Benedict Saint John's University

Brian Arbour – CUNY John Jay School of Criminal Justice

Brian Brox – Tulane University

Jonathan Chausovsky – SUNY Fredonia

Eunjung Choi – University of South Florida, Tampa

Paul Dehart – Lee University

Oya Dursun-Ozkanca – Elizabethtown College

Julie George – CUNY Queens College

Danny Hayes – Syracuse University

Miryam Hazan – Migration Policy Institute

Rich Holtzman – Bryant University

Ji-Hyang Jang – Seoul National University

Sunila Kale – University of Washington, Jackson School of International Studies, South Asia Center

Julie Lane – South Dakota State University

So Young Lee – Yonsei University

Robert Marbut – Northwest Vista College

Allison Martens – University of Louisville

Seth McKee – University of South Florida, St. Petersburg

Mark McKenzie – Texas Tech University

Clarisa Perez-Armendariz – Bates College

Ayesha Ray – King's College, Wilkes-Barre

Amy Risley – Rhodes College

Laura Seay – Morehouse College

Jungkun Seo – University of North Carolina, Wilmington

Jennifer Suchland – The Ohio State University

Natasha Sugiyama – University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Jeremy Teigen – Ramapo College of New Jersey

Mathieu Turgeon – University of North Texas

Michael Unger – Ramapo College of New Jersey
David Weiden – Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis
Jongseok Woo – University of West Florida
Muserref Yetim – New York University
Donald Zinman – Grand Valley State University

Read the latest [Graduate Student News](#).

Please address comments, questions, or requests to be removed from this mailing list to [Alumni Relations](#); or, by phone: (512) 232-7225. This is a publication of the [Department of Government](#) at the [University of Texas at Austin](#), 1 University Station A1800, Austin, Texas, 78712-0119.