

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

SKIDMORE COLLEGE
Government Department

Fall 2012



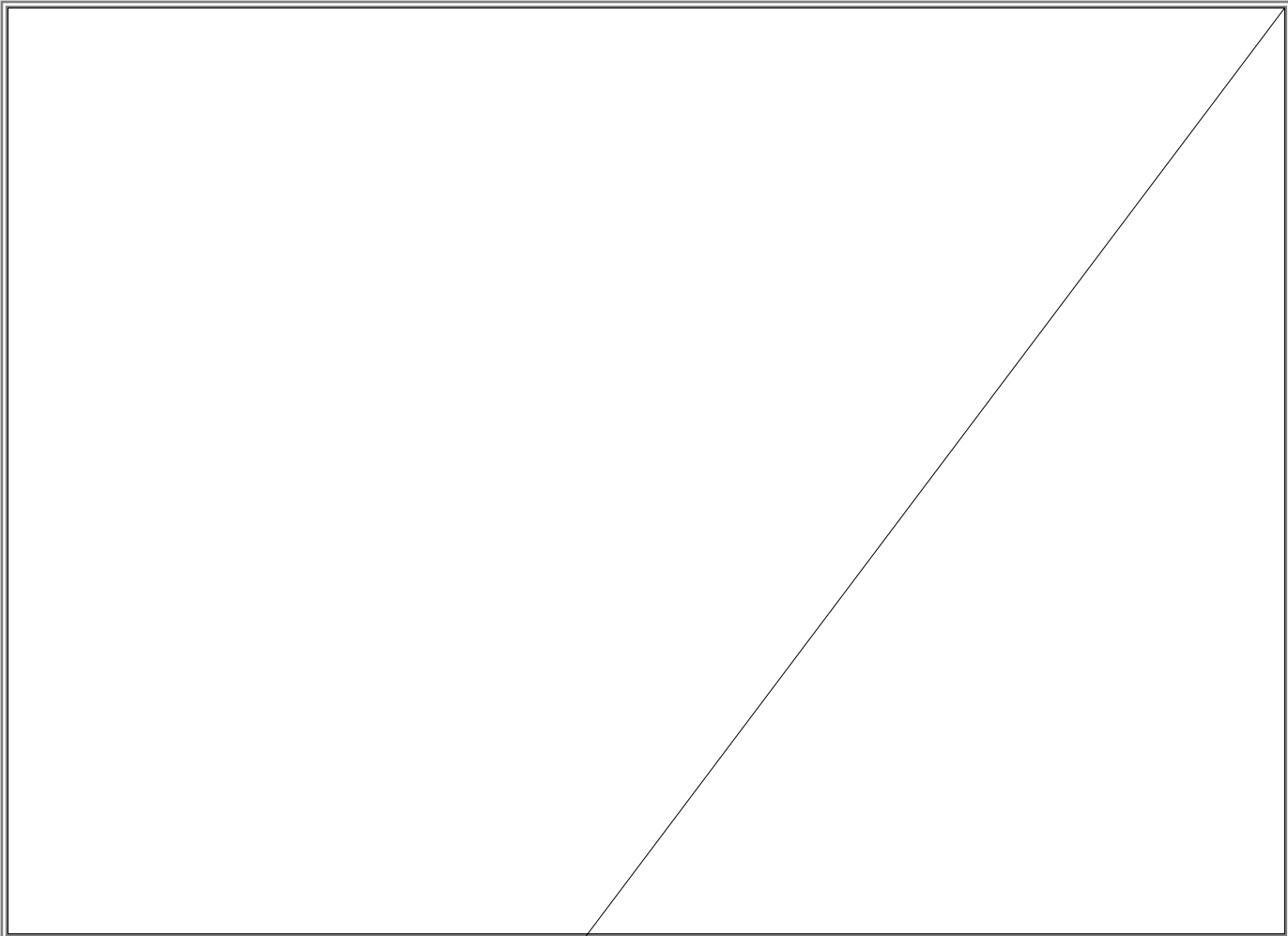
In the Spring of 2012, while teaching at Skidmore, I received an inquiry from the School of Political Science and International Relations of the National University of Rosario (UNR), Argentina. Would I be interested in teaching a seminar on globalization and democracy during the summer? This request took into account that I was listed as a Fulbright scholar in the Fulbright Specialist Program as interested in traveling abroad to teach short-term seminars and courses on democracy, globalization, and international relations. I was very interested in this possibility and after a few weeks of discussing the conditions and timing, I was awarded a Fulbright specialist grant to teach a seminar on globalization, democracy and economic policy and participate in other academic activities at the UNR during the month of August.

I spent June and July preparing the syllabus and selecting the bibliography for the seminar (the course to be taught in Spanish) and exchanging information with the host university and the staff of the Fulbright Commission. By the end of July, I departed for Argentina and, after spending a few days in the capital city, Buenos Aires, finally arrived in Rosario. Rosario is the third largest city in Argentina (around 1.3 million people) and is located on the western shore of the Paraná River (the second largest river in South America; in Tupi language Paraná means "as big as the sea"), 170 miles North of Buenos Aires.

Since the 19th century, the city has been one of the main ports of export of Argentine grains and beef (once it was known as the "Argentine Chicago") and since the 19th century has been also an industrial center. Today, after a period of decline after the crisis of the early 2000s, it has experienced an economic and cultural renaissance fueled by the recovery of the Argentine economy and, particularly, by the boom in soybean production, prices and exports in the last few years. The National University of Rosario is one of the largest in Argentina with around 73,000 students, 6,000 of which are registered in the undergraduate and graduate programs in the school of political science and international relations.

At my arrival in Rosario, I was warmly greeted by my hosts and, by August 4, I began to teach my seminar on democracy and globalization to a group of graduate students in the school of political science and international relations. This was a wonderful experience as the students were extremely interested in the topic and active participants in the class sessions that were twice a week for four hours (with a short intermission). I was never to lecture for more than a few minutes before the students intervened with incisive questions and thoughtful comments that revealed their interest and careful reading of the materials assigned for each class. Concerning the readings, it is important to mention the effort that they made considering that although the class discussions were conducted in Spanish, most of the materials (except when translations were available) were in English.

Besides the bi-weekly classes, I was asked to deliver some talks to graduate and undergraduate students concerning topics such as the impact of globalization on Latin America, U.S. relations with Latin America, and the current political situation and presidential campaign in the United States. At other times, as undergraduate classes started (when I arrived, the winter break was still underway) I was invited to participate in some of the classes on international politics and relations



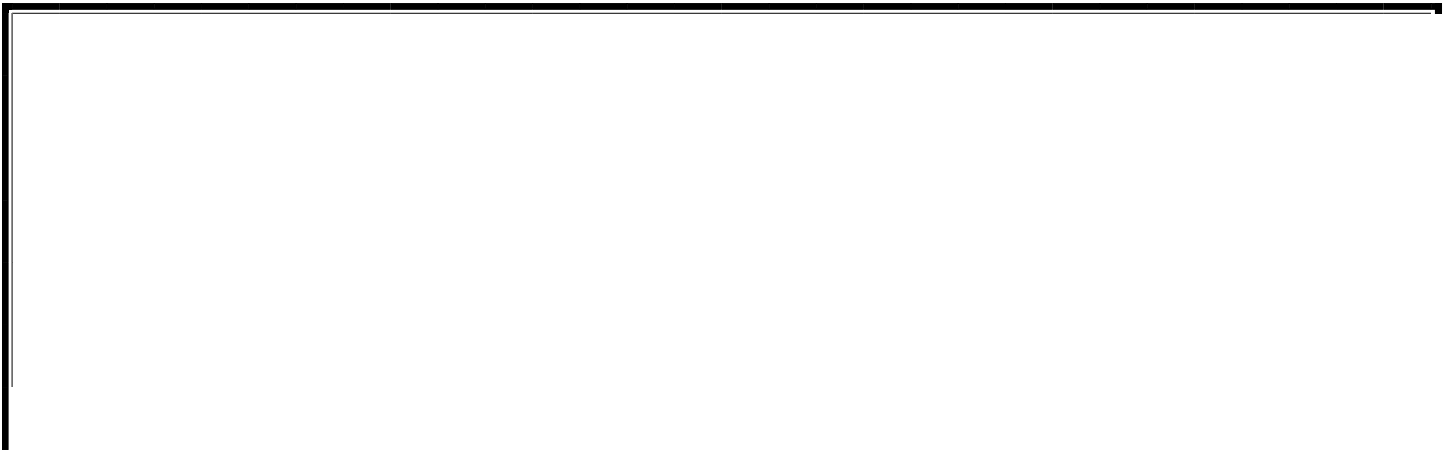


The 14th Amendment is widely known as the Reconstruction Amendment that affirmed racial diversity in the United States after the Civil War. In modern American history, the 14th Amendment's Equal Protection Clause has been used as a legal mechanism to apply the Bill of Rights to the states. Certain Supreme Court justices, legal historians, and other academics have panned it as a revolutionary amendment that the Framers of the Constitution would not approve of. However, on September 24, Michael Zuckert, the Nancy R. Dreux Professor of Political Science at the University of Notre Dame, emphasized that the 14th Amendment is not as radical as it is made out to be.

It was altogether fitting for Dr. Zuckert to lecture in front of Nan Ward's "We the People," a piece of art in the Payne Room of the Tang that spells out of the first words of the Declaration of Independence with thousands of multi-colored shoelaces. Zuckert's assertion of contextual conservatism of the 14th Amendment against a multicultural backdrop created a lively juxtaposition of scholarship and history.

Dr. Zuckert painted a broad picture, explaining the relationships between some of the most famous Founding Fathers and Framers of the Constitution, including George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, and James Madi-





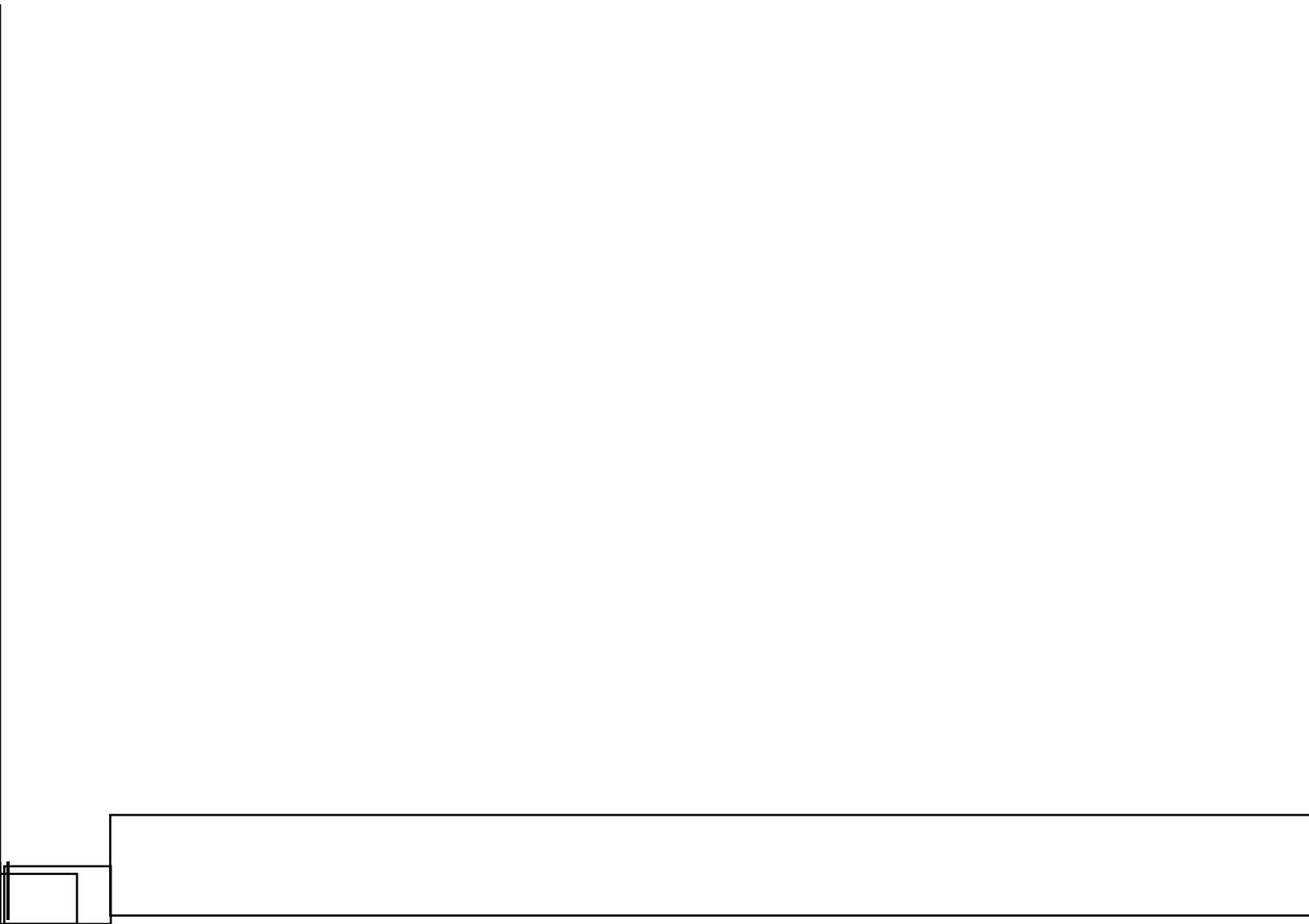
EXPLORING THE PRESIDENCY THROUGH STUDENT OPPORTUNITY FUNDS

CONNOR GRANT-KNIGHT, '15 (Continued from page 12)

ALEX M







GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT SPRING SCHEDULE

Burns, Tim - x5247, Ladd 316

GO 205H	Modern Political Thought	TU/TH 12:40 - 2:00PM
GO 351B	Political Thought of Aristophanes	TU/TH 3:40 - 5:30PM

Ginsberg, Roy - x5245, Ladd 314

GO 219	Political Economy of European Integration	M/W/F 10:10 - 11:05AM
GO 301	Contemporary International Politics	M/W 2:30 - 3:50PM

Graney, Kate - x5242, Ladd 309

GO 103-01	Intro to Comparative/International Politics	M/W/F 9:05 - 10:00AM
GO 103-02	Intro to Comparative/International Politics	M/W/F 10:10 - 11:05AM
GO 340	International Human Rights Law	W/F 12:20 - 1:40PM

Hoffmann, Steve - Office location and phone TBD

GO 319	What the U.S. Does Wrong in the World: Views from India and Answers from Washington	TU/TH 6:30 - 8:20PM
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Ocakli, Feryaz - x5246, Ladd 316

IA 101	Introduction to International Affairs	T/TH 11:10-12:30PM
GO 251A	States, Markets and Politics in Developing Countries	TU/TH 2:10-3:30PM

Seyb, Ron - x5248, Ladd 310

GO 362	Politics of Congress	TU/TH 11:10AM- 12:30PM and TH 6:00 - 7:00PM
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Taylor, Flagg - x5244, Ladd 306A

GO 102	Introduction to Political Philosophy	W/F 12:20 - 1:40PM
GO 367	Constitutional Conflicts	M/W 2:30 - 3:50PM

Taylor, Natalie x5243, Ladd 306B

GO 101	Introduction to American Government	TU/TH 2:10 - 3:30PM
GO 236	American Political Thought	TU/TH 9:10 - 11:00AM

Turner, Bob - x5251, Ladd 310

GO 222	State and Local Government	TU/TH 12:40 - 2:00PM
GO 231	Environmental Politics and Policy	TU/TH 9:40 - 11:00AM

Vacs, Aldo - x5249, Ladd 319

GO 209	The Latin American Puzzle	M/W/F 1:25 - 2:20
GO 228	US Foreign Policy	M/W/F 11:15 - 12:10
GO 366	Understanding Globalization	M/W 4:00 - 5:20