



Notes From the Acting Chair

Welcome to the latest issue of the Political Science Department Newsletter. We have all had a productive and interesting year as we await the move back to a renovated Patterson Hall in time for Fall 2012 classes. We are all excited to move back to Patterson, which promises to be a showcase on campus.

As the pages of this newsletter show, both faculty and students in the Department have enjoyed a successful year. Our students have excelled in the classroom and beyond, and have made lasting contributions to two of the Department's signature activities – the Mock Convention and Model United Nations, while our faculty have continued to show dedication to their classes and to their respective research agendas. The Department places special pride in the scholarly activity of our faculty, and our faculty are regularly presenting and publishing their work.

While I have enjoyed my brief time as Chair this semester, I will be especially glad to welcome Dr. Cohen back from his sabbatical in the Fall, so that he can resume

Dr. Jim Rhoads



these duties with which he is more familiar.

I hope everyone enjoys hearing about the recent activities of the Department and that you enjoy a safe and productive summer.

Cheers,

Dr. James C. Rhoads

(Acting) Chair, Political Science Department
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Rhoads earns 2012 Henderson Lectureship

Dr. James C. Rhoads, Professor of Political Science, was recently selected to deliver the Henderson Lecture in October 2012. The Henderson Lectureship was established over 25 years ago by Dr. Joseph Henderson, a former Westminster Professor of Education. Dr. Henderson wanted to provide an opportunity for Westminster faculty to share their research with the entire campus.

Rhoads is currently conducting depth-interviews with partisans of various political stripes to try and better understand the political socialization process. Q Methodology will be employed as a means to probe the subjectivity associated with the development of these political attitudes. The aim of this research is to first show that single-cases can be studied systematically, with measurement procedures, and secondly, to demonstrate the inter-relationships of thoughts and attitudes to political behavior.

In addition to the Henderson Award, Rhoads received a Research Award from the College to help carry out this research.

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