

**DEPARTMENT OF
POLITICAL SCIENCES**

**NEWSLETTER
June 2011**

Dear Students,

We are delighted to present you with this newsletter, our first for 2011. We hope you find it informative. We also wish to thank you for your contribution to an eventful semester.

HIGHLIGHT OF THIS SEMESTER

The International Conference on Regional Integration in Europe and Africa took place from 16 to 18 February and was undoubtedly the highlight of the semester. This conference also served as a platform for the launch of the UP Research Unit for Euro-African Studies and the recently announced UNESCO Chair in Regional Integration, Migration and Free Movement of People, a joint initiative of the UN University and the University of Pretoria. Ambassador **Mary Sibanda-Thus**, Chief Director: Western Europe, Branch Europe, Department of International Relations and Cooperation (DIRCO), who is also a Master's student in our Department, delivered the keynote address during the launch of this unit.

International speakers at the conference included:

- **Prof Philippe C. Schmitter** (Central European and Stanford universities),
- **Prof Amitav Acharya** (American University),
- **Prof Mario Telò** (Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium),
- **Dr Xinning Song** (Renmin University of China), and
- **Dr Luk Van Langenhove** (UN University).

**INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL AND
CONFERENCES**

Prof Maxi Schoeman and **Dr Lorenzo Fioramonti** attended the plenary meeting of the EU-Mercury team in Prague in March where both delivered papers based on research related to the European Union, Africa and multilateralism. In early April **Prof Schoeman** served on the external review panel of the Institute for Peace and Security Studies at the University of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Prof Schoeman and **Prof Gerrit Olivier** participated in the annual conference of the Centre for African Studies in Moscow in May, delivering papers on South Africa's foreign relations with Russia and other BRICS countries.

Mr Roland Henwood enjoyed sabbatical leave over the past semester and spent three weeks at the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation in Uppsala completing a research project.

PUBLICATIONS

Prof Schoeman and **Prof Marie Muller** co-authored a chapter on "Southern African Development Community as regional peacekeeper" for the book *Regional Organizations in African Security*, edited by **Fredrik Söderbaum** and **Rodrigo Tavares** (2011).

Three of our staff members contributed to Vol. 46, No. 1 of the *International Spectator*. The first is **Prof Schoeman** with her article "Of BRICS and mortar: The growing relations between Africa and the Global South". **Prof Olivier's** article was "From colonialism to partnership in Africa-Europe relations?" **Dr Fioramonti**, with **Patrick Kimunguyi**, authored "Public and elite views on Europe vs China in Africa".

Prof Miti co-authored an article with **Prof P S Hill**, **Mr P Vermeiren**, **Dr G Ooms** and

Prof W Van Damme entitled “The health systems funding platform: Is this where we thought we were going?” This article was published in *Globalization and Health*, Vol. 7, No. 16.

European journal, *Regions and Cohesion*, published an article by **Dr Yolanda Spies** and **Mr Patrick Dzimiri**, a Doctoral candidate in the Department, in January 2011. The article, titled “A conceptual safari: Africa and R2P”, explores the African roots of the new global norm on humanitarian intervention, known as Responsibility to Protect (R2P).

Dr Henning Melber, Executive Director of the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation, Uppsala (Sweden), and Research Fellow at our Department wrote an article on “Grenzen einer Weltwirtschaftsregierung. Neue Akteure in neuen Governance-Strukturen”. His article will be published in the July/August 2011 edition of *WeltTrends. Zeitschrift für Internationale Politik*.

Dr Laurie Nathan (a Senior Researcher in the Department) contributed an article on “Interests, ideas and ideology: South Africa’s policy on Darfur” to Vol. 110, No. 438 of *African Affairs*.

STRATEGIC REVIEW FOR SOUTHERN AFRICA

Articles included in the May (Vol. 32, No. 1) edition of the *Strategic Review for Southern Africa*, a publication of the Institute for Strategic and Political Affairs (ISPA):

- “Militias: A conceptual framework”, by **Dr C Alden**, **Prof M Thakur** and **Dr M B Arnold**.
- “The conceptual structuring of the intelligence and counterintelligence processes: Enduring holy grails or crumbling axioms – quo vadis”, by **Dr P C Duvenage** and **Prof M Hough**.

- “Liberation movements as governments in Southern Africa — on the limits of emancipation”, by **Dr H Melber**.
- “Behind the veil: India’s relations with apartheid South Africa”, by **Prof H Solomon** and **S Theron**.
- “Locals only: Understanding xenophobia in South Africa”, by **N de Jager**.
- “Panel Discussion on South Africa’s second term on the UN Security Council – expectations, objectives, objectives and challenges” address by **Mr Marius Fransman**, deputy Minister of DIRCO.

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS AND LECTURES

“Why Asia has become rich and powerful” was the topic of a departmental seminar, presented by **Mr Roelf van der Veen**, in February. **Mr Van der Veen** is the author of *Africa: From the Cold War to the 21st Century* (2002) and *Why Asia has become rich and powerful*. (2010). He is Professor of International Relations at the University of Amsterdam and Professor for Dutch Foreign Policy at the University of Groningen. He specialises in the political economy and development of Africa and Asia and also serves as the Scientific Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Netherlands.

The Department and the South African Association of Canadian Studies (SAACS) hosted a seminar on 1 March entitled “Single party super-majorities: Delivering on promises while governing for all”. The speaker was **Prof Tom Flanagan** (University of Calgary), for many years a close political adviser of Canadian Prime Minister **Stephen Harper**.

On 17 March the Centre for Mediation in Africa, University of Pretoria, hosted a seminar presented by **Mr Sery Zady Aurelian**, a political analyst from Abidjan, on “The crisis in Côte d’Ivoire”.

The public seminar on 12 April was presented by **Mr Alastair Crooke** and focussed on “Strategic, regional and global implications of the Middle East uprisings”. The hosts were the Department and the Afro-Middle East Centre (AMEC). **Mr Crooke** is the Founder and Director of Conflicts Forum, an organisation that advocates for engagement between political Islam and the West.

The Centre for Mediation and the Department organised a seminar in May on “Ordering the world: academic research and policymaking on fragile states”. The seminar was presented by **Prof Roland Paris** of the University of Ottawa, Canada.

On 1 June **Mr Roeland van de Geer** (Head of the Delegation of the European Commission in South Africa) delivered a lecture on “Is peace possible in the Great Lakes region?” This public lecture was organized by the Centre for Human Rights and this Department.

The Institute for Strategic and Political Affairs (ISPA), UP, and the Embassy of the United States of America (Pretoria), hosted the Second Edward Kennedy Memorial Lecture on 8 April. This lecture was presented by **Dr Tom Boasberg**, Superintendent of Public Schools in Denver, Colorado and was titled: “Educational Reform in the United States: Global challenges and lessons learned”.

BOOK DISCUSSIONS

On 30 March the Centre for Mediation and the Centre for Human Rights jointly held a panel discussion on “South Africa’s second term on the UN Security Council”. The speakers were **Mr Marius Fransman** (Deputy Minister of DIRCO) **Mr João Ramos Pinto** (Ambassador of Portugal) and **Dr Bjørn Møller**, (Danish Institute of International Studies (DIIS)).

The Department and the Centre for Human Rights, University of Pretoria, hosted a panel discussion on 5 April entitled: “*Do normative frameworks ‘save us from hell’? - Dealing with crimes against humanity*”. The speakers at this discussion were **Dr Henning Melber**, **Dr Bjørn Møller**, **Prof Johan van der Vyfer** (Extraordinary Professor, UP) and **Prof Erika de Wet** (Co-Director, Institute for International and Comparative Law in Africa).

BOOK LAUNCHES

Dr Geoff Pigman, from Bennington College (Vermont, USA), launched his new textbook on diplomacy, entitled *Contemporary Diplomacy: Representation and Communication in a Globalized World*, at a reception hosted by the Department on 18 February. The book highlights how the study of diplomacy can contribute to the analysis of 21st century conflict and international relations. **Dr Pigman** has already guest-lectured in the Department and will return to present the IPL 320 module on Foreign Policy during the second semester this year.

On 8 June the Centre for Politics and Research (CIPS) organised the launch of *The Death of our Society* by **Mr Prince Mashele**. **Jeremy Cronin** (Deputy Minister of Transport and Deputy General-Secretary, South African Communist Party) and **Dr. Mcebisi Ndletyana** (Senior Research Specialist in the Democracy, Governance and Service Delivery research programme of the HSRC) participated in a panel discussion during the launch. **Mr Mashele** is the Executive Director of the Centre for Politics and Research, a think-tank based in Pretoria. He was responsible for lecturing a part of the STL 310, (South African Politics) module, and will also lecture the Honours students on South African Politics in the second semester.

FOREIGN VISITORS

Dr Chris Alden (London School of Economics) and his wife, **Ms Kato Lambrechts**, are spending six months in our Department. We want to thank **Ms Lambrechts** for lecturing our IPL 310 students on International Political Economy.

Mr Nikolaus Rottenberger, Security and Defence Policy Adviser to the Austrian Federal Minister of Defence, visited our Department in May. During his visit he conducted research for a project on UN – Africa relations.

STUDENT SEMINARS

Our first student seminar, presented by **Mr Florian Krampe** of the Department of Peace and Conflict Research at Uppsala University and the Uppsala Centre for Sustainable Development, took place on 13 April. The topic under discussion was: “From swords to ploughshares? Identity transformation and reconciliation in Zimbabwe and South Africa”.

Dr Cori Wielenga, post-doctorate fellow with this Department, presented our second student seminar on 20 April. Her topic: “Reconciliation in Rwanda after genocide: Contending narratives”.

“Africa and the developed world: Creating space for Africa’s agenda”, was the title of our third student seminar, held on 25 May and presented by **Mr Khwezi Mabasa**, a part-time assistant lecturer in this Department.

AFRICA DIALOGUE LECTURE SERIES

On 6 April ISPA hosted a lecture by **Mr Moe Shaik**, Director of the State Security Agency Foreign Branch, as part of the ongoing Africa Dialogue Lecture Series. His lecture

was titled: “Conceptualising South Africa’s national interest”.

THIRD INTAKE OF MDIPS

This year saw the third intake of students into the highly successful customised Master of Diplomatic Studies programme. The new group comprise 21 participants, many of them senior South African diplomats, and also includes senior officials from several other South African government departments, as well as diplomats from other SADC countries. They spent their first bloc period on campus from mid-March to mid-April, and will return in mid-August to complete the remainder of their taught modules.

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY VISIT

A group of 19 Master’s students from George Mason University (Washington DC) spent a week at the Department during May as part of an annual GMU study tour to South Africa. The group enjoyed a programme packed with lectures on various South African socio-economic and political policy issues, and visited the AIDS Centre in Hammanskraal and the Voortrekker and Apartheid museums and toured Soweto, before they departed for another week of lectures in Cape Town.

THE MODEL UNITED NATIONS DEBATE

The Department’s annual second-year International Relations Model UN debate was held on Wednesday, 25 May. This year’s theme was “Legitimacy versus efficiency of global governance in the 21st century: Transformation of the United Nations Security Council”.

The debate was vibrant and lively. Students reflected their understanding of the structure of the Security Council, which still mirrors

the political realities of the world in 1945. During the debate, students stressed the fact that various regions, notably Africa (which has a larger number of UN member states than any other region), have no permanent representation on the Council. They presented possible scenarios for the restructuring of the Council on behalf of their assigned states.

The year 2011 marks the unprecedented and overlapping presence of the member states of emerging power blocs such as BRICS, IBSA and BASIC and countries such as Nigeria and Germany. The students' enactment of this confluence of power constellations in the 2011 Security Council revealed the complex power dynamics in the current global order.

The countries represented in the debate were: Permanent members: China, France, Russia, United Kingdom and United States. Non-permanent members: Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Colombia, Gabon, Germany, India, Lebanon, Nigeria, Portugal, and South Africa.

Congratulations to our winners in the following categories:

- Best Team: **Nigeria**
- First Runner up: **Germany**
- Second Runner up: **South Africa**
- Best Team Spirit: **Lebanon**
- Best Speaker: **Miss Laura Stewart**

A special word of thanks to **Dr Yolanda Spies, Ms Uyo Salifu, Ms Ina Hugo, Mr Khwezi Mabasa, Mr Laurence Caromba, Mr Wesley Timm, Mr Broc Rademan and Mr Armand...** for all their hard work to make this a very successful event.

CONGRATULATIONS

We wish to congratulate **Dr Gerhard Wolmarans** and his wife, **Erna**, on the birth of their second child, **Amelie**, on 12 May.

We also wish to congratulate **Dr Yolanda Spies** and her husband, **Hannes**, on his appointment as ambassador to Mauritania from January 2011.

Congratulations to all the students who successfully completed their studies and received their degrees during the April graduation ceremony. These include:

- The following two students who received their Doctoral degrees under the supervision of **Prof Mike Hough**:

Dr P C Jacobs who received the DPhil (International Relations) degree with his thesis on "Intelligence and intelligence cooperation in combating international crime: selected case studies".

Mr P C Duvenage who received the DPhil (Political Science) degree with his thesis on: "Open source environmental scanning and risk assessment in the statutory counterespionage milieu".

- Five students who received the Master of Security Studies (MSS) degree under the supervision of **Prof Hough**. They are **Mr SA Anum, Mr SJ Edge** (cum laude), **Mr DA Muller** and **Mr Q Swart**.
- Seven students who received Honours degrees in International Relations. Among them, the following three students received their degrees with distinction: **Ms Ivana Curkovic, Mr Kevin Marincowitz** and **Ms Sonja Theron** (part-time assistant lecturer in this Department).
- Two students who received Honours degrees in Political Science.
- 24 Students who received the BAdmin International Relations degree.
- 27 Students who received the BPolSci (International Relations) degree. Among them, **Ms Faith Mabera, Mr Broc Rademan**

and **Mr Ismaeel Samaai**, received their degrees with distinction. **Mr Rademan** also won the prize for Best Student in Political Science at the third-year level while **Mr Samaai** won the prize for Best Student in International Relations at the third-year level.

- 13 Students who received the BPolSci (Political Science) degree.

Congratulations to those students who were awarded other degrees, such as BAdmin, BA Journalism and BA. Well done! We are proud of you. Best wishes for the future.

WE WELCOME ...

The Department wishes to welcome back **Prof Sandy Africa**, who returned to the Department after her secondment to the Department of State Security.

We also wish to welcome **Mr Prince Mashele** and **Dr Mzukisi Qobo**, who will be with us on a part-time base from 1 July until 31 December.

We warmly welcome you and look forward to working with you!

THANK YOU

Thank you to **Mr Richard Cornwell**, Consultant and Research Fellow in the Department of Development Studies at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, for lecturing the PTO 752 Conflict Studies course. We appreciate your enthusiasm and positive interaction with the students.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE SECOND SEMESTER

Conference announcement: This Department and the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation, in cooperation with the Embassy of Sweden in Pretoria, are proud to announce a conference on "The United Nations and Regional Challenges in Africa -

50 years after the death of Dag Hammarskjöld", to be held from 13 to 15 July 2011. See our website for more information.

Faculty seminar series: A lecture on "The South in World Politics" by **Dr Chris Alden** of the London School of Economics and Political Science will take place on 3 August.

During the second semester **Dr Gerhard Wolmarans** will be on sabbatical leave in the US during which time he will pursue research on deliberative democracy.

In mid-July **Dr Cori Wielenga** will attend a conference, hosted by the International Association of Genocide Scholars on "Genocide: Truth, memory, justice and recovery" to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The title of her paper: "Identity and genocide: The impact of the Hamitic hypothesis on violence in Rwanda".

THE LAST WORD...

A letter to Prof Schoeman from a former student, **Dr Kyu-deug Hwang** (now a senior lecturer in Korea): *"Whenever I look back on the past in South Africa, I always thank God for allowing me to meet you and my school, Tukkies. I have good news for you concerning your pupil. Since this semester (the first of March, 2011) Hankuk University of Foreign Studies (HUFS) appointed me to a full-time professor (assistant professor) at the Division of African Studies. I am so thankful to God and many persons including my honored professor, Maxi Schoeman! I miss you and all of my friends at UP and in South Africa so so much. I hope I can see you sometime soon when I get a chance to visit South Africa again".*

We hope that you found this newsletter informative and that you enjoyed reading it. Any contributions to future newsletters or suggestions for improvement are welcome. Please contact Ms Rentia Pretorius (012 420 2690) or rentia.pretorius@up.ac.za.