UC Santa Barbara has received a $600,000 gift from UCSB alumnus Anton Vonk and his wife, Diane Boss, to establish an endowed chair in political science. The Vonk professorship will support the teaching and research of a renowned scholar specializing in international security studies related to energy and the environment, and will be affiliated with UCSB’s Donald Bren School of Environmental Science and Management.

“Diane and I are very happy to be able to support UCSB with this gift,” said Vonk, a successful businessman. “Our own backgrounds and experiences have persuaded us that it is important to develop broad approaches to studying international security—especially those emphasizing the security implications of energy dependence and other environmental issues.”

Vonk, who was born in the Netherlands, was president and chairman of Vitol SA, one of the world’s largest oil trading companies, until his retirement in 1997. In 2005, he earned a master’s degree in political science at UCSB. The subject of his thesis was the politics of energy resources and pipelines in the Caspian Sea region. Boss, a social psychologist and documentary filmmaker, serves on the board of the Santa Barbara Community Environmental Council.

“This is a generous gift from an extremely talented and engaged couple,” said Melvin Oliver, SAGE Sara Miller McCune Dean of Social Sciences at UCSB. “They have provided an opportunity for us to expand our offerings in an area that reflects both their personal experiences and extensive knowledge and our academic focus on the social and political underpinnings of international security as it relates to our planet’s environmental challenges. We look forward to Diane Boss’ and Anton Vonk’s continued involvement with both the Division of Social Sciences and the Bren School in these areas in the years to come.”

John Woolley, chair of political science, said the department was deeply grateful for the couple’s generous gift and excited by the opportunity it presents. “The Anton Vonk Chair in International Security gives the Political Science Department an opportunity to add a senior colleague in one of the most interesting emerging areas of security studies—environment and security,” said Woolley. “Experts believe that threats from the environment such as energy vulnerability and climate change, for example, are the most pervasive and important of non-traditional security threats.”

UCSB’s graduate program in international relations is distinguished by its strength in international political economy, traditional security studies, and its links to psychology, Woolley noted. “We are confident that the Vonk Chair will make our international relations graduate program markedly stronger, more visible, and more distinctive,” he said. “We also expect the chair to expand our ties with the Bren School, another important objective of our department.”

Endowed chairs are highly prized academic positions that enable a university to attract and retain leading scholars and to develop more fully a field of study by providing ongoing financial support for enhanced research and instruction.

Benjamin Cohen, Vonk’s thesis advisor and Lancaster Professor of International Political Economy, said, “The Vonk Chair will add an important new dimension to the range of courses and research that we can offer in the area of international relations and international security and give us an opportunity to build relationships between our own international relations security work and that of the Bren School.”

“We were happy to discover that the focus for the chair fit with the Political Science Department’s plans,” Vonk added. “Moreover, we are particularly interested in the idea that this chair can connect and benefit both the Political Science Department and the Bren School. We were pleased that the Vonk Chair was supported by both Dean Oliver and Dean Ernst von Weizsäcker of the Bren School.”

—Eileen Conrad
UCSB Office of Public Affairs

A career in politics may seem a logical choice for political science majors. Many students are bitten by the bug after taking the SimCong class, working on a local political campaign, or participating in the UCDC program. But in fact, after a period of initial enthusiasm, most of our graduates who have migrated to political jobs in Washington, DC after graduation leave politics for careers outside the political realm. As part of our continuing series, “What can you do with a degree in political science,” we interviewed two fairly recent graduates who chose politics as a career—one who eventually left it and one who has stayed. Their stories illustrate the accomplishments of our alumni and the career choices all of us confront.
Yier Shi ’97: From Republican Campaign Strategist to Public Relations Executive

Yier Shi frankly states that the reason he majored in political science was because UCSB does not have a journalism major. He had edited both his high school and community college newspapers, and says the two things that really mattered to him were journalism and politics in that order. He therefore decided that his best option at UCSB was to major in political science and write for the Daily Nexus.

Mr. Shi worked on his first political campaign in 1994, while he was still in community college. When he graduated from UCSB in 1997, a contact he made during that campaign helped him get a job in the California state treasurer’s office. When Treasurer Matt Fong ran for the U.S. Senate seat held by Barbara Boxer, Shi worked on that campaign as well; then joined the campaign of first-time candidate for Congress, Doug Ose (R-CA). Ose won his seat in 1998 and invited Shi to join his Washington, DC staff. He served as Ose’s press secretary for five years, and values experiencing first-hand the political process during historical events such as the Clinton impeachment hearings and the aftermath of the 9/11 attacks.

When Ose decided in 2004 to honor his pledge to serve only three terms, it freed Shi to take a position as a regional press secretary for the Republican National Committee, mainly working on the Bush re-election campaign. In this position, he was the Republican Party’s official spokesperson for ten western states. It was a demanding job, involving a lot of travel and reading a daily packet of national and regional news to find those items needing a quick response from the campaign. In spite of the long days and hard work, he loved it. “The apex of my political life was working on a presidential campaign at that level.”

After the 2004 election, Shi was offered an appointment in the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Though his appointment was political, the agency itself is non-political, and its work affects everyone’s lives. “It was an eye-opening experience to work there.” In spite of his past enjoyment of political campaigns, he found his interest shifting from politics to policy because “policy is what matters to people.” In 2006, he left the FDA and went to work for the public relations firm, FD Dittus, as a Senior Director. FD Dittus is not a lobbying firm; rather, it helps companies and associations get their message out to media and people of influence to build coalitions for change. In April of this year, Shi joined Gibraltar Associates, another Washington, DC public relations firm, as a Vice President. In his new employment, he is looking forward to greater responsibility and learning more about the management and financial side of the business.

Looking back on his political science education, Yier Shi feels it has been very useful in both his political and public relations careers. “Practical classes like SimCong teach you what the political world is like—you gain experience and learn how to practice politics,” while the more theoretical classes “teach that politics is somewhat predictable and therefore help you anticipate what will happen in real-life situations.” He also uses the writing—“the ability to articulate a position, how to research and identify issues and gain support”—every day, along with the skills he learned from journalism. To undergraduates and alums who may be considering a career in politics, he offers the following advice: “From the outside, politics appears to be both glamorous and rewarding. But when you get into it, it is not as glamorous as it seems. People who are attracted to the glamour will be disappointed and should not go into it. However, a career in politics is every bit as rewarding as it seems (especially when you win!).”

Jennifer Crider ’95: Communication Director for the Democratic Congressional Campaign

Jennifer Crider majored in political science because she was interested in current events, politics, and the motivations behind political behavior. However, when she graduated, she took a marketing position with Xerox. It took less than a year to discover that the business world just wasn’t for her, so she decided to go to Washington, DC in 1996 and take a job in politics while she figured out what she really wanted to do.

Ms. Crider’s first job was as an intern in Rep. Robert Matsui’s office (D-CA); then after six months, she got a position as a staff assistant in the office of Rep. John McDermott (D-WA). As she notes, “Washington, DC is very transitory—people come and go a lot,” so as positions opened up in the congressman’s office, she took advantage of each opportunity to advance, progressing from staff assistant to press secretary to legislative assistant. “I was there four or five years before I finally realized, I have a career.” In 2000, when Maria Cantwell (D-WA) was elected senator, Crider joined her office as press secretary; then moved to the office of then-minority leader Nancy Pelosi as deputy communication director. When Pelosi was elected Speaker of the House, she asked Crider to take the position of communication director for the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC), where she also serves as a senior advisor to the Speaker.

DCCC is a national committee working for the election of Democrats who are running for congressional office. Crider’s job puts her in the thick of the battle, and she notes, “It’s not for the faint of heart. Election campaigns are a fight to the finish and the job requires taking on tough issues and being willing to fight for them.” While press secretaries handle most of the daily interface with the media, when an official press release about a particular issue is issued by the committee, it usually comes out under Crider’s name. “There is no typical day,” but she meets regularly with various strategy teams about election campaigns and legislative targets, reviews overnight news for action items, and helps on-going campaigns with their media plans, interfacing frequently with regional press secretaries and Committee Chair Chris Van Hollen (D-MD).

Crider says that she uses what she learned in political science every day. “If anyone wants to know ‘What can I do with this [major] in real life,’ it teaches critical and analytical thinking and how to make, support, and defend an argument”—valuable skills in a number of professions but especially in politics. “Political science also teaches not just what people do, but why they do it, so you have the necessary understanding to change or affect that behavior.” She also notes that “political science teaches you to write well, both in the long form and the short form,” and has found that both kinds of writing skills are needed.
For undergraduates considering a career in politics, Crider strongly recommends taking SimCong "because it piques your interest in politics and you simultaneously get to put into practice what you are studying," and the methodology course, PS 104. "Politics is a series of steps—you need the logic of PS 104 to figure them out so you can cut through the political arguments. If you do that, you win." She also recommends that students pursue internships in Washington, DC because it's the best way to start networking and that's the key to a successful career. "Talk to everyone connected with jobs you are interested in or who has a job you would someday like to have. Let them know your interests and ask their advice—they in turn will keep you in mind." Word-of-mouth is the best way of learning about new openings, and there is an exceptionally good network of UCSB alums in the nation's capital to help.

### T-shirts and Globalization

**A Campus-Community Forum**


The goal of the UCSB Reads program is to connect the campus and the community in a discussion of important issues through reading the same book, in conjunction with panel presentations by UCSB faculty and community leaders and a public lecture by the author. This year eight academic departments, including political science, incorporated Rivoli's book into one or more of their classes. Professors from multiple disciplines, including John Woolley and Benjamin J. Cohen from political science, also participated in one or more community forums about the book. Woolley comments: “The topics of globalization and economic regulation are important for political science.

Classroom instructors and panelists were almost unanimous in their praise for Rivoli’s ability to discuss serious, compelling topics in engaging, understandable prose. Instead of traditional academic discourse, she explains the history, economics, and politics of the international textile industry through a “biography” of a simple cotton t-shirt that she purchased in Florida in 1999. She tracks its story as it begins in the cotton fields of Texas, becomes a t-shirt in China, re-enters the U.S. market through a maze of restrictions and quotas before eventual sale, gets discarded in a thrift shop collection bin, and ends up being shipped to a third world market stall to start life anew as a used t-shirt. In addition, she introduces the reader to real people who are key players at each step: the owners of family farms and cooperatives in Texas, the workers and managers of factories in Shanghai, the representatives of the textile and apparel industries in the United States, the used-clothing exporters, and finally, the operators of clothing market stalls in Africa. The topic is treated seriously and her stories are backed-up by extensive data and statistics, but the author’s skillful use of narrative makes the issues understandable.

At her well-attended talk in March, Rivoli addressed many issues, including some of the environmental and social concerns about globalization that were raised at the public forums. After displaying a world map depicting her t-shirt’s life journey, she noted that people have two very different reactions to it: They either see (1) the creation of markets, jobs, and products; or (2) the destruction of U.S. textile industry, exploitation, and Asian intrusion into other economies. While she generally sees the positive side of globalization and believes life is getting better in most countries because of it, Rivoli still describes the current system as inequitable, and lists three major challenges that must be addressed.

First (in what Rivoli calls “The tenured professor problem”), governments and industries in power write the rules in a way that protects themselves but may in the process hurt or exclude others, such as emerging African economies, from competing on the global stage. Second, because consumers want cheaper products, their demands continue to create downward pressure on wages and working conditions (what she calls “The race to the bottom”). She credits the student activism of the 1990s with pushing responsibility for their suppliers onto corporate agendas and improving working conditions in China; however, the resulting increased wages and production costs have in turn caused industries to look for cheaper suppliers elsewhere, starting the sweatshop cycle anew. Third, conditions within a particular country may exacerbate the inequitable distribution of the benefits of globalization. Rivoli also plans to include an entire chapter on the impact of globalization and trade on the environment in the next edition of her book.

The final component of this year’s UCSB Reads program was a drive for clean, used t-shirts, which were incorporated into a student-created UCSB art project led by Arts Professor Kim Yasuda. The kinetic soft sculpture they created (pictured here) was displayed in Storke Plaza after the talk. Unused shirts were donated to charity, where they will either be sold in a U.S. thrift store or travel overseas in a bale of used clothing to be resold in an African market stall—perhaps a very fitting end to this year’s discussion of globalization at UCSB.
Kathleen Bruhn Explores Urban Protest in Latin America

Why do social and political groups turn to protest as a means of advancing their cause? The prevailing theory among political scientists is that such groups resort to protest when they have no ally in power who can give them a voice through legitimate channels. Professor Kathleen Bruhn challenges that theory in her newest book, Urban Protest in Mexico and Brazil (Cambridge University Press, 2008).

Bruhn focused on protest in Mexico City and São Paulo, Brazil for several reasons. Since most urban movements are allied with leftist parties, she wanted to be able to examine periods when the leftist party was both in and out of power. Each of these cities had two alternations of right and left party administrations during the study period. The two cities also balance each other in another important way: The principal leftist party in Mexico (the PRD) does not have strong ties to unions, but the leftist party in Brazil (the PT) does. Since protests in urban environments tend to be about local issues and are highly organization-driven, it was also important to choose cities with a wide variety of protesting organizations and party alliance choices. Finally, each city had reliable data on protests in the form of newspaper accounts, a significant source for her research.

Before she could begin, Bruhn (who is fluent in Spanish) first had to learn to read and speak Portuguese; then read more than 23,000 newspaper issues for reports on protests. She next had to code each report and enter the data into a unique database so that she could do the necessary statistical analysis. During that time, she also interviewed leaders of various urban protest groups, interviews that were sometimes difficult to arrange and often conducted secretly and anonymously. This was a labor-intensive process, but at the end of more than four years’ work, some specific trends about protest groups emerged. She found that unions accounted for the majority of urban protests, rather than non-union groups (“urban popular movements”). However, within each classification, only a small number of groups did most of the protesting. In addition, though the majority of organizations were independent, the majority of protests were done by groups with leftist party affiliations and the number of protests was always higher against leftist administrations.

These results run counter to the prevailing theory that predicts groups will protest less when their party ally is in power. Bruhn notes that her research does not explain all causes of various groups’ decisions to protest, but it does indicate that changes in protest strategies follow systematic and predictable patterns based on the characteristics of the organizations themselves: the type of organization, its age, a past history of protest, and its internal leadership structure. Her conclusion is that these characteristics influence a group’s propensity to protest and also restrict its ability to turn it off, even when the “Political Opportunity Structure” turns in their favor.

The study of protest is important. As Bruhn states in her book, “Protest can bring down governments, create major policy changes, even scare off investors.” It has also been a means for minorities to get items on the political agenda. The next research step would be to see if the trends she discovered in local protests extend to national protests. She believes her findings apply more generally, noting that she has seen some of these characteristics in local protests in the United States. “Here, it’s always the same groups that seem to do most of the protesting.”

An Insider’s History of International Political Economy

In this engaging and informative book, International Political Economy: An Intellectual History (Princeton University Press, 2008), Benjamin J. Cohen, Louis Lancaster Professor of International Political Economy, relates how International Political Economy (IPE) was constructed as a new field of scholarly endeavor—“a true interdisciplinary” between political science and economics—that came into being in the 1970s.

In this intellectual history, Cohen emphasizes the indispensable roles of both key individuals and the context of events and circumstances in which they advanced their theories. He pays particular attention to seven “intellectual entrepreneurs” whose contributions he deems critical, and whose insights have influenced the past and future directions of the discipline. Cohen’s “Hall of Fame” includes
(in alphabetical order) Robert Cox, Robert Gilpin, Peter Katzenstein, Robert Keohane, Charles Kindleberger, Stephen Krasner, and Susan Strange. He makes it clear that these are his own nominees; however, several of his choices also have been cited on other surveys about significant contributors to the field. What these individuals have in common are “a broad intellectual curiosity, a contrarian cast of mind, acute sensitivity to experience,” and a body of durable work.

Cohen also devotes considerable discussion to the differences between the American and British “schools” or approaches to IPE, which have existed from the beginning. The American school emphasizes positivism and empirical testing. It therefore tends to investigate “mid-level theory” questions that can be subjected to quantitative analysis. The British school emphasizes larger theories, particularly those relating to normative issues such as injustice; therefore it places less emphasis on empirical testing and encourages integrating concepts from multiple disciplines, such as history and sociology, into the fabric of IPE.

The effect of this schism between the schools is given particular attention in Cohen’s concluding chapters. In the first of them, he reviews what the discipline has learned overall and finds it still “very much a work in progress … The field has proved much better at asking questions than providing answers.” In the final chapter, he makes a strong case for the need to construct bridges between the various factions of IPE if scholarly discourse is to continue on a productive path. He finds some encouragement that this may happen in recent publications of Peter Katzenstein, Jeffrey Chwieroth (UCSB Ph.D. ’03, now on the faculty of the London School of Economics), and his own recent books, The Geography of Money and The Future of Money. What these works have in common is that they investigate the kinds of larger issues associated with the British school, while still integrating systematic data analysis and testing into their arguments.

Cohen’s role as a significant contributor to the development of IPE began when he was a member of the economics faculty at Princeton. In 1966, he was asked to teach a class in international economy for the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. Because none was available, he prepared the first useful reader on American economic foreign policy, which was later published as American Foreign Economic Policy: Essays and Comments. This in turn led to his being asked in 1970 to edit the Political Economy of International Relations series for Basic Books, to which he eventually contributed two volumes. In 1971, he was hired by the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy to teach international economy courses, and the multiple disciplines represented in the Fletcher School curriculum permitted him to do more interdisciplinary work. Eventually, he found his home in political science and IPE—“an economist who came in from the cold” as one colleague has described him, and continues to publish as a noted expert on the politics of international monetary matters (“the godfather of the money mafia” according to another colleague).

Presidential Leadership, Illness, and Decision-Making

In this election year, Professor Rose McDermott hopes her new book, Presidential Leadership, Illness, and Decision-Making (Cambridge University Press, 2008) may generate some needed discussion on this timely topic. “People are generally reluctant to talk about health/age matters in relation to the presidency because the subject is scary—it’s hard to avoid projecting the implications onto their own situation as well.” Yet a careful reading of this book underlines the reality of presidential impairment and the necessity of coming to terms with it in a better fashion than we do now.

Mc Dermott’s book concentrates on the effects that medical and psychological illness can have on foreign policy decision-making by providing detailed analyses of four affected American presidents: Woodrow Wilson, Franklin Roosevelt, John Kennedy, and Richard Nixon. Drawing extensively on archived information, including previously unpublished medical material, she demonstrates how their respective illnesses and treatments may have influenced their decision-making in crucial foreign policy situations. The book concludes with an in-depth discussion of the 25th Amendment and how our system of government needs additional procedures in place to deal with both healthy and impaired presidents.

McDermott’s opinion is that since presidential candidates are required to make a full financial disclosure, why not require them to make disclosure of their physical health as well? Examples of medical coverups of various presidential illnesses are rife throughout McDermott’s book. She cites this as one reason for having an objective procedure in place for evaluating candidate/presidential health. She is quick to point out that we need to have better disclosure of health issues not so much to exclude certain candidates from office, but to be sure all the cards are on the table when voters are making a choice. As she makes clear in the book, some illnesses affect decision-making more than others. For example, the lingering effects of Roosevelt’s polio probably had little effect on his cognitive abilities, but his progressive cardiovascular disease most likely did.
Therefore, depending on the circumstances, a less healthy person might still be the better choice for president in spite of health concerns—for policy, historical, or situational reasons.

McDermott also believes that age should be taken more into account in evaluating presidential health, even suggesting a national discussion on a possible age limit for presidential candidates. "Just because people are living better longer doesn’t mean they are fit for the presidency after a certain point because the office is so stressful." She notes that presidents age badly in office and presents data showing that they tend to die much sooner than others in their age and demographic cohorts. She adds a cautionary postscript to her discussion of presidential health: Because nine persons have become president from the office of vice president, these concerns should apply to vice presidential candidates as well.

Rose McDermott received her Ph.D. from Stanford University in 1991 and joined the political science faculty at UCSB in 2001. She is the author of numerous publications on international relations theory, American foreign policy, and political psychology, including her previous sole-authored books, Risk Taking in International Relations (University of Michigan Press, 1998), and Political Psychology in International Relations (University of Michigan Press, 2004). For the academic year 2008-2009, she has been selected as a fellow of the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University. These prestigious fellowships were open to competitive application for the first time this year, and she was one of 40 new fellows selected in this process. During her fellowship year, she plans to work on her next book topic, the impact of pandemic disease on international security issues.

### Milestones

#### Al Wyner to Retire in June

Ian Wyner, long-time member of the department and Dean of Undergraduate Education in the College of Letters & Science, will retire on June 30, 2008.

Dean Wyner received his Ph.D. in political science from Ohio State University in 1967 and joined the UCSB political science faculty in 1968. During his tenure as a faculty member, he taught courses on public administration, environmental politics, California politics and government, and American government and politics. His "fascination with the way government implements policy and the art of democratic compromise" is reflected in his research on legislative politics and the mechanism of policy implementation, including natural hazards policy and the political role of water in California.

In addition to his teaching duties, from 1988-1991 and again in 1994-1996, Wyner held part-time administrative assignments in the College as Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Education. In July of 1996, he was appointed full time as Acting Dean of Undergraduate Education, then officially as Dean in March of 2000, a position he has held until his retirement. In announcing Dean Wyner’s retirement, Chancellor Henry Yang cited his "exceptional leadership" in establishing the Freshman Summer Start Program, as well as his support for the Freshman Seminar Program, and the College of Letters & Science Honors Program.

Wyner recalls his career as "a long string of supportive and rewarding relationships with my colleagues, and I will miss them very much." He is looking forward to having time to travel and catch up on his reading, but hopes to continue his connection to UCSB through occasional teaching or short-term administrative assignments.

### Joseph Lodge, 1932-2008: Association with UCSB Spanned Forty Years

After a 10-year battle with lymphoma, Judge Joseph Lodge passed away May 5, 2008. He was still teaching his class PS 165, “Criminal Justice,” and maintaining a full courtroom schedule when he became ill at the end of April and was hospitalized.

Judge Lodge’s life and career were profiled in our 2007 Newsletter. His judicial career began in 1958 with his election to the Goleta/Hope Ranch Justice Court. At the time of his death, he was a Judge of the Superior Court, County of Santa Barbara—the longest serving California judge still on the bench. He began teaching at UCSB in 1959, and had a continuous association with the political science department as an instructor since the mid-1960s.

Judge Lodge’s class was one of our most popular offerings. Students praised his knowledge, insight, and sense of humor, and frequently noted that his class was their favorite among all those they had taken. In addition, his teaching inspired many students to enter the law profession. One of those was Judge Raymond C. Fisher of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. In a letter to the department after our 2007 article appeared, Judge Fisher stated: "I won’t speculate about where my own career might have gone if [political science] had not been my major. But I know for a fact I wouldn’t have progressed to where I am today were it not for Joe Lodge — and I’d like to credit him publicly as I’ve so often done privately when counseling others about a career in law.”

Judge Lodge reciprocated the sentiments of his students. In a farewell message to the department, he noted: “One of the gifts of my life has been the honor of teaching Political Science 165, Criminal Justice . . . I thank you for this rich experience.” At his request, no memorial services are planned. His wife, Sheila Lodge, notes that in 2002, his friends gave him an “in lieu of retirement” party, and he always considered that celebration to be his memorial. At that event, many
Larry Adams, 1936-2007: Inspired the Adams Scholarship in Public Policy

Larry Adams (B.A. 1958, Ph.D., 1970), former instructor in the political science and religious studies departments, passed away in 2007 after a long illness. A specialist on modern political philosophy and American political thought, he continued his academic career at Baruch College of the City University of New York, where he served on the faculty from 1971 until his retirement in 1996. He then returned to Santa Barbara where he continued his long-time friendships with emeriti, faculty, and former students.

During his years as a UCSB instructor, Adams was known for his engaging and inspirational teaching. He was also a political activist who encouraged his students to get involved in politics and public life. Many of these students went on to careers in government and the public sector as a result. Several of them shared their warm memories of Larry Adams, both with the department and at his memorial service.

Adams’ inspirational legacy continues in the Larry Adams Scholarship in Public Policy, founded in his honor by R. Marilyn Lee ’69 in 2000. One scholarship is given each quarter to a qualified political science major serving an unpaid internship in a local government agency. It is Ms. Lee’s intention that these scholarships continue the Adams tradition of activism and involvement for new generations of students at UCSB. Friends who wish to honor Larry Adams’ memory by contributing to the Adams Scholarship endowment fund may use the form included in this newsletter.

Gifts to the Department

Gifts of support in any amount for the department of Political Science are deeply appreciated, and we have included a clip-out form for that purpose.

There are many giving possibilities. Currently, we are seeking support for undergraduate research projects and internships, graduate student fellowships and travel grants, endowed chairs and professorships, and our speaker series. General gifts to the department are used wherever the need is greatest.

If you would like more information about making a specific gift or about planned giving, please contact Carroll Deason, Director of Development, Division of Social Sciences, at (805) 893-2774, or carroll.deason@ia.ucsb.edu.

From the Chair John T. Woolley

Our department is concluding another very busy year! I keep waiting for things to settle down, but suspect that this is not going to happen.

As announced in this newsletter, we received final approval from the Office of the President to establish the Anton Vonk Professorship in International Security—a gift that promises to dramatically enhance the strength of our faculty in International Relations while strengthening our links to the Bren School of Environmental Science and Management.

Our faculty continue to be very active and productive. Professors Bruhn, Cohen, and McDermott published new books this year. McDermott also received a prestigious fellowship from the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences. Professor Lorraine McDonnell began her year-long term as President of the American Educational Research Association, one of the nation’s largest professional associations. Assistant Professor Heather Stoll received a Regents Junior Faculty Fellowship. At the end of this academic year, Assistant Professor Robert Rauchhaus received the Academic Senate’s Distinguished Teaching Award. Finally, we are eagerly awaiting the arrival of a new Assistant Professor, Amit Ahuja, who is completing his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan and will join us in the fall. His dissertation is on the political mobilization of the dalits (untouchables) in India.

We’ve also had to deal with transitions and losses. Longtime faculty member Al Wynen, currently serving as Dean of Undergraduate Studies, will retire at the end of June. The University will miss his wise leadership. We hope that he will decide to join other emeritus faculty in teaching occasionally for the Department. And as you have read, we lost both long-time instructor Judge Joseph Lodge and former instructor Larry Adams this year.

Several years ago, an outside review of our program pointed to a need for us to engage our graduate students more in research and professional life. We have worked hard to change things in that respect. In the past few months, at least 20 of our graduate students—more than a third of our current roster—participated in professional conferences by giving papers, chairing panels or serving as discussants. This is a remarkable achievement and critical to helping these students launch successful professional careers.

And this brings me to the punch line: money! We rely on donor funds to support student educational travel, both for grad students and undergrads. For example, this year we provided modest support for participants in the Model UN, the Model Arab League, and Mock Trial, as well as students engaged in honors research; however, we were far from able to reimburse these students for the full cost of their travel. In fact, it was only because of generous support from alumni and friends like you that we were able to offer them any support at all. This is only one of the ways your contributions can make a difference in our students’ lives. Please continue to contribute, if you already do so; please consider making a donation to the department if you haven’t.
To make a contribution to the Department of Political Science, mail this form and your tax-deductible donation to:

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