During the spring of 2011, Michael Boyle, ‘98, and Miguel Glatzer, assistant professors of political science, launched the Lasallian Forum for Politics and Policy. The first full year of the Forum has been a great success, beginning with a full house in Dan Rodden Theater on Sept. 15 for the program “10 Years After 9/11—America’s War on Terror.” Students and faculty were treated to an outstanding discussion on the psychology and practice of terror by Peter Mandaville of the U.S. Department of State, on leave from George Mason University, Clark McCauley of Bryn Mawr College, and Michael Scheuer of Georgetown University. The program, which was moderated by senior political science major Claire Fisher, generated many follow-up discussions around campus.

The international theme continued during the fall with two additional programs in late September and October 2011. Michael Gallagher, ’67, an English graduate, spoke to our current political science majors about his experiences from “38 Years in the U.S. Foreign Service,” including the time he and his family spent in Bosnia, Brussels, The Hague, and the U.S. Mission to the United Nations in New York City. William Burke-White, another former State Department analyst, spoke with students about the pressures of “Policy Planning in the State Department.” Burke-White, who holds both a graduate degree from Cambridge University, generated many follow-up discussions around campus.

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The past year seems to have flown by in the Political Science Department. Student internships, independent study courses, departmental panel discussions, Lasallian Forum presentations, and guest speakers have all made the Department a hub of activity in Olney Hall. And we have created a new required course for freshmen majors in political analysis, which will increase both the research and writing skills of our majors. For the coming year, our focus will be on our alums.

We want to reconnect and reintroduce you to the Department. As you see, we are actively bringing alums back to campus as part of our Forum series. Please take a minute and visit our new updated department Web site. Just search for “La Salle Political Science,” and you will find information on our faculty and our graduates, testimonials from alums, and much more. Please help us reach you with a current e-mail address in this increasingly electronic world by logging on to www.lasalle.edu/updateyourinfo. Finally, if you or your company or firm could offer an internship, a summer job, or part-time employment to one of our political science students, please contact me at dillonm@lasalle.edu.

Michael R. Dillon, Ph.D., J.D.
Chair, Political Science Department
The Political Science Department will fondly remember the many and diverse student all-stars in our graduating class of 2012. Many of these young men and women are dual majors, and some are also in the Honors Program. One is an intercollegiate athlete; others exercise leadership in a wide range of student activities. All of these all-stars have staggering GPAs between 3.68 and 3.98. Most important to the faculty, all of them are wonderful men and women who are a delight to have in our classes. For the past four years, they have created a hard-working, academically curious atmosphere in the Department. We will miss them.

Claire Fisher, a dual major in political science and economics and an Honors Program member, received the prestigious Joseph Flubacher Award from the Economics Department and served as President of the St. Thomas More Pre-Law Society for 2010–2011. Fisher was active in the Diplomat-in-Residence Program and has published “The Need to Correct the Quiet ‘Everyday’ Corruption” in The Arusha Times, May 28, 2011, Issue 66. She spent five weeks of the summer after junior year in Russia and was recommended by the University for a Fulbright Award to teach in Azerbaijan for 2012–2013. Ultimately, Fisher will be pursuing graduate school in Russian and East European studies and is already accepted at Harvard and the universities of Kansas, North Carolina, and Wisconsin.

Brian McBeth, a political science and history dual major, is also in the Honors Program and received a Finnegan Public Service Internship during the summer of 2011, during which he worked with the law firm of Gallagher & Rowan in Center City Philadelphia. McBeth was one of the first and most active members of the Mock Trial Team, receiving the Best Witness award at the Coast Guard Invitational and a Best Attorney award at the Philadelphia Regional Tournament. He was the Vice President of the La Salle chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society. McBeth will be attending law school following graduation and is already accepted at Villanova and Drexel.

T.J. McCarrick, a political science and history dual major in the Honors Program, received a Finnegan Public Service Internship for the summer of 2010, during which he was a student clerk for the Hon. Chris Wogan, 72, in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas. McCarrick served as an elected student representative on the Department Board for 2010–2011 and 2011–2012 as well as serving as President of the Honors Program Board. He published “Winston Churchill Guardian of Civilization” in The Histories, Vol. 10 No. 1, pp. 100–105. He was one of the founders of the La Salle Mock Trial Team and received Best Attorney awards at the Villanova Invitational, the Coast Guard Invitational, and the Philadelphia Regional Tournament. McCarrick will be attending law school next fall and is already accepted at Georgetown, Villanova, Temple, Drexel, and Notre Dame, with full scholarships at two schools.

Eric Patenaude, a Canadian citizen and political science major, is also an intercollegiate athlete on the swimming team, performing in the 100-yard and 200-yard breaststroke. Patenaude was chosen for the Philadelphia Inquirer’s All-Academic Team and the Atlantic 10 Commissioner's Honor Roll of student-athletes. During his four years, he was a very active member of La Salle’s NCAA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. He will be pursuing his MBA at La Salle immediately following graduation and is then planning on attending law school in Canada.

Steve Patton, a political science and psychology dual major in the Honors Program, received the Department’s Robert J. Courtney Scholarship for senior year and is a founding member and President of the La Salle Mock Trial Team. He has won Best Attorney awards at both the University of Pennsylvania Invitational and the Coast Guard Invitational. Patton was an elected student member of the Departmental Board for 2009–2010, 2010–2011, and 2011–2012. He published “The Peace of Westphalia and its Affects on International Relations, Diplomacy, and Foreign Policy” in The Histories, Vol. 10 No. 1, pp. 91–99. He received a Finnegan Public Service Internship for the summer of 2010, during which he interned in the Philadelphia District Attorney’s office. He also volunteered on many other occasions over his four years at the D.A.’s Office. His vision and energy organized the University’s now annual High School Mock Trial Tournament for 30 high schools and 350 students throughout the eastern half of Pennsylvania. Patton will be attending law school in Philadelphia beginning in August 2012 and is already accepted at Drexel and Villanova.

John Prendergast, a political science and history dual major, is also a member of the Honors Program. He was a recipient of the

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The La Salle Mock Trial Association was created three years ago by three determined political science majors: Steven Patton and John Prendergast of Roman Catholic High School and T.J. McCarrick of La Salle College High School. They drew up a constitution, prepared letterhead, and fought to have their organization officially recognized by the University. They elected officers, recruited and trained other students interested in mock trial, and, by sophomore year, were traveling to competitions against more experienced teams. More students became interested in mock trial, and soon La Salle’s two teams were winning invitational tournaments, and individual members of the teams were being honored with Best Attorney and Best Witness accolades at tournaments from the Coast Guard Academy to Villanova to the University of Pennsylvania.

Four years of hard work, practice, attention to detail, and dedication has now earned the team an invitation to the 2012 Opening Round National Championship Series being held in Washington, D.C. Not surprisingly, Patton, Prendergast, and McCarrick are all headed to law school.

During the past year, the Political Science Department recognized Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter by conferring upon him honorary membership in the La Salle University chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society.

Eleven political science majors accompanied Mary Ellen Balchunis, assistant professor of political science, to Philadelphia’s City Hall, where the presentation of the award was made in the mayor’s conference room.

Mayor Nutter Honored

During the past year, the Political Science Department recognized Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter by conferring upon him honorary membership in the La Salle University chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society.

Finnegan Public Service Internship for the summer of 2011, during which he worked in the District Attorney’s office. Following graduation, Prendergast will complete his master’s degree in history at La Salle, and, upon doing so, he plans on attending law school. He was one of the founding members of the Mock Trial Association and was Tournament Director of the University’s High School Mock Trial Tournament for the past two years. Prendergast has already published a book review, “Realistic Visionary: A Portrait of George Washington,” in The Histories, Vol. 10. No. 1, pp. 126–129.

Nathan Tarnoviski, a dual major in political science and history, also earned close to a third major in philosophy, where he completed an independent research project with John Hymers, assistant professor of philosophy, on Alexander Baumgarten and assisted Hymers in editing Baumgarten’s “Aesthetics.” Tarnoviski will be attending graduate school next year in philosophy, most likely at the University of Lueven in Belgium.

Thomas Wingert, a political science major minoring in leadership and global understanding, will be attending graduate school next year and is already accepted at Columbia, Johns Hopkins, and Michigan. A leading force in “City Year,” headquartered in Boston, Mass., he expanded his horizons at La Salle by participating in a travel/study course to Israel and Palestine during the spring of 2011. He also traveled with Miguel Glatzer, assistant professor of political science, to Portugal in the summer of 2011 as well as on the travel/study trip to Turkey for spring 2012. He was also President of the La Salle chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society.