Welcome to the 2013 Newsletter. I hope you will enjoy the updates and stories, and learning about the activities of the department and students. In fall 2012 the department added three new faces. Dr. Sooh-Rhee Ryu is a new assistant professor who will teach international courses, Connie Simpson is the new academic department associate, and Dr. Steven Maloney joined the department as an adjunct to teach political theory courses. We are thrilled to have them join our staff and I hope you will enjoy the short interviews introducing each of them. In October 2012 the department co-hosted the annual Wisconsin Political Science Association meeting, with Dr. Wes Chapin serving as co-organizer, Dr. Erick Highum chairing a panel and serving as discussant, and both Drs. Ryu and Davida Alperin presenting papers (the latter was one co-authored with Dr. Neil Kraus; it was also published in the New England Journal of Political Science). The conference was a wonderful opportunity for some of our current students to see a professional event, and it was well attended, including many sociologists participating through the two other co-hosts: the Wisconsin Sociological Association and the Sociologist of Minnesota. Over the last year the Department hosted several guest speakers, including U.S. Senator Ron Johnson, who spoke to a large group in the University Center. Dr. Highum has once again volunteered to work with a group of students conducting survey research, and they presented their findings at the April 2013 National Conference on Undergraduate Research, held in La Crosse, Wisconsin this year. The students in the International Relations Club (formerly the Model United Nations Club) have renamed the organization, and it is now the Global Politics Club. They have been extremely active this year, hosting debates, engaging in simulations, raising money, and participating in the annual Arrowhead Model United Nations Conference. Dr. Chapin is leading two more groups to Europe as part of his political science courses, visiting Berlin, Cologne, Munich, Vienna, Nuremberg, and Rothenburg ob der Tauber. Throughout the year, one of our student workers, Brittany Flatten, has been working to collect alumni stories, and perhaps you have heard from her. We particularly appreciate and enjoy learning about our alumni and we have included several profiles in this newsletter. Thank you for supporting the political science program and, as always, we look forward to hearing from you.

Cheers, Wes

The Global Politics Club is a place for those who have international interests to debate the issues of the day, organize conferences, and participate in model United Nations conferences, among other things. The students meet weekly in The Caucus Room-KFA 353.
We wrote a conference paper on the topic for the 2012 Wisconsin Political Science Association meeting and published a journal article on the topic in the New England Journal of Political Science.

Outside of my professional life, the most exciting event of this year was a 4½ week family trip to Israel during the summer. My partner Sharon, our 2 kids, and I were able to afford the trip by using frequent flyer miles we have been saving for many years. We sublet an apartment in Jerusalem. That allowed us to not only be tourists on a budget, but also to get a glimpse of the routines of daily life. We got comfortable in our neighborhood, learned to navigate the city with public transportation, shopped at the local supermarket, used the recycling bins at the end of the block, and started a weekly tradition of visiting the ice cream parlor when the Sabbath ended on Saturday night.

Erick Highum, Lecturer since 2000.

During Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 semesters, Dr. Highum has been working with a team of UW-RF student researchers, on the 2013 UW-RF International Trade survey. The survey was designed to determine the level of support that UW-RF students have for U.S. government regarding the issue of international trade and international institutions that focus on trade. The student researchers (Erynn Delahousaye, Michael DeMattiess, Chad Hanson, Hannah Carlson, and Kathryn Van Putten), have been accepted at 2013 National Conference of Undergraduate Research to present their findings, based on gathered responses from more than 340 students from the UW-RF campus.

Dr. Highum is also serving as a reviewer of conference paper submissions for the 2013 NCUR meetings.

Neil Kraus, Associate Professor.

Professor Neil Kraus continues to teach several courses in American politics and public policy, and serve as the advisor for the Pre Law Program. On Monday, April 8, he hosted a Pre-Law event at UWRF that featured two current law students and two attorneys. Several students attended and asked the panel a variety of questions about law school and the legal profession. During the Fall 2013 semester, Neil will be on sabbatical. During this time he will be studying the implementation of the Promise Neighborhood concept in Minneapolis. His book, Majoritarian Cities: Policy Making and Inequality in Urban Politics, will be published later this year from the University of Michigan Press.

Wes Chapin, Professor

Dr. Chapin was elected for the third time to serve as Faculty Senate chair, and is finishing his term in May 2013. He continues to be active in education abroad, coordinating the International Traveling Classroom and taking two groups to Germany and Austria during 2013. He is serving as the President of the Wisconsin Political Science Association, Vice Chair of the UWRF Strategic Plan Progress Committee, Faculty Representative to the UW-System, and as advisor to the Global Politics Club.

New Faculty and Staff Join Political Science Department.

Sooh-Rhee Ryu, Assistant Professor

Why were you interested in joining the faculty at UWRF? I really enjoy getting to know my students throughout their journey to graduation, and the teacher-student interac-
Faculty and Staff Updates (continued)

Dr. Steven Maloney joined the Political Science department in August 2013, in time to begin teaching Fall Semester classes. Professor Maloney’s areas of specialization include: political theory, institutional design, historical political thought, political psychology, and moral psychology.

Steven Maloney, Lecturer

Why were you interested in joining the UW-River Falls faculty as an adjunct professor?
I’ve always enjoyed teaching at public universities. After spending a few years teaching at small private schools, I wanted to go back to a big one. I did my undergraduate and PhD programs at the University of Maryland, so I think large state schools feel a little bit like home to me. You were born in New York and raised in Pennsylvania, and went to school in Maryland. What brought you to the Minnesota/Wisconsin area?

My wife had an offer to come to the Twin Cities for work. We decided that we would do it for a couple of years and maybe go back east, but we really liked it here, so we stayed!

What do you enjoy most about your teaching position at UWRF? What do you find to be most challenging?

I enjoy the teaching itself the most. I really liked it here, so we stayed! We decided that we would do it for a couple of years and maybe go back east, but we really liked it here, so we stayed!

What things most surprised you about America or Americans? Or what did you find most interesting about them?

I’m surprised to see that Americans are so obsessed with Sports, especially football. Also it is interesting to see how much soda Americans daily consume!

What would you most like Americans to know about Korea and Koreans?

Among most Americans, Korean culture is generally considered to be simply a part of a larger Asian culture, which makes it easy to overlook the unique cultural attributes of it. I would also like to encourage students to look past the negative historical elements of Korea (e.g., Korean war, North Korea) and really get to know Korea for its other more positive characteristics.

What things most surprised you about America or Americans? Or what did you find most interesting about them?

I’m surprised to see that Americans are so obsessed with Sports, especially football. Also it is interesting to see how much soda Americans daily consume!

As a new faculty member, what is the most exciting opportunity you’ve encountered, professionally? The most challenging?

I taught at a smaller college in PA, so coming to UWRF with a larger campus brought some challenges. For example with more faculty members in the department I realized that communication is more important. Also, with a more diverse student population, I recognized I would need to strengthen my understanding of different perspectives, concerns and interests of my students. I have the exciting opportunity to advise international students, which gives me an opportunity to interact with them.

2013 CONTRIBUTORS

Our sincere gratitude and many thanks to the following for their generous contributions to support political science scholarships and/or the Political Science Foundation:

- Morgan and Ian Baum
- R. Edwin Coyle
- Dale Isley & Beth Garaas-Isley
- General Mills Community Action

WAYS TO GIVE

Thank you for considering a gift that will help educate the next generation of UWRF students. The Foundation (Alumni) Office accepts gifts by check, credit card and “Planned Giving.” See http://www.uwrf.edu/UniversityAdvancement/WaysToGive.cfm or phone 877-258-6647 or 715-425-3505 for more information. Be sure to specify a scholarship (listed on Page 10) or the Political Science Department Foundation fund under “Additional instructions for directing your gift.”

Our sincere gratitude and many thanks for supporting our students!
Faculty and Staff Updates (continued)

Connie Simpson, Academic Department Associate.
In October 2012 Ms. Connie Simpson joined the department as Academic Department Associate, serving the political science and international studies programs. She has extensive experience at UWRF, having worked at the university for more than a decade and having experience in Global Connections and, most recently, the College of Education and Professional Studies. She brings a depth and breadth of knowledge in areas important to the department, and has a long and positive record of working effectively with students, faculty, and staff.

Why were you interested in working for the College of Education and working for international studies and political science?
I have a larger variety of tasks making each day at work just a little bit different. Even though there are deadlines to meet and duties to perform, on the whole, the position is much less stressful. I have more opportunity to interact with students who come to the office. As a former teacher, this is very enjoyable for me.

What do you like most about your current position?
I like the opportunity to assist and interact with the professors and students and learn new skills. I also work in Geography and Mapping Sciences, so I move between departments each day. I always have something on which to focus.

What goals do you have in your current position?
I would like to become more proficient at working on the department web site. So far, I have just maintained and taken care of updates. I would like to become comfortable with the process and less hesitant. Also, I would like to learn how to use Adobe Design. The program is on my computer, but I need some training.

What else would you like UWRF students and alumni to know about yourself?
In my spare time I enjoy traveling, gardening, reading and the MN Twins. I am a big sports fan and truly am a faithful fan of the Twins, through thick and thin. My husband and I have planned several summer projects and a mini family vacation with our sons and their families. Of course, we will attend several MN Twins baseball games.

Thomas Jefferson
"An educated citizenry is a vital requisite for our survival as a free people."
At Left:
Students from Dr. Erick Highum’s Political Science Survey Team presented their International Trade Development Survey results at the National Conference of Undergraduate Research at UW-La Crosse April 12-14. The student researchers, Kathryn Van Putten, Erynn DeLaHousaye, Michael DeMatties, (Hannah Carlson, not pictured)

Congratulations!

Delegate Participants:
Elizabeth Hebert
Ruth Tucker
Kathleen Wolfgram
Joe Henson
Katie Schuman
Joe Hamblin
Edward Sabongi
Nick Vanden Heuvel
Logan Villebrun
Andrew Harrison
Mike Engelhardt
Matthew John Stewart
Zachary Lunde
Arianna Pajtash
Kathryn Van Putten

Results:
Honorable Mention for Best Delegation: Turkey Delegation (UWRF)
Best Delegate on Environmental Comm: Joe Hamblin (Turkey)
Honorable Mention for Delegate on Politics & Security Comm: Andrew Harrison (Turkey)
Derek Brandt (2008)
Derek began at UWRF studying to become a broad field social science teacher, but quickly found his passion for more hands on political advocacy. While he was a student he served as President of the Student Senate and was an active member of the executive board within Theta Chi Fraternity. After graduation Derek began coordinating grassroots advocacy and membership engagement programs for the American Academy of Neurology (AAN) at their headquarters in Minneapolis, MN. In 2011 he relocated to the AAN’s DC office to serve as their Congressional Affairs Representative. In this position Derek meets with members of Congress and their staff to advocate on a variety of issues such as Medicare provider payments, funding for public research, and medical liability reform. To engage local neurologists on these issues, Derek travels around the country to discuss the importance of political involvement on the state and federal level. Derek also manages the AAN political action committee BrainPAC, which contributed more than $550,000 to candidates for Congress in the 2011-2012 election cycle. Through these contributions Derek attends more than 150 fundraisers annually featuring key congressional leaders such as Speaker of the House John Boehner (R-OH), Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV), and Rep. Ron Kind (D), who represents River Falls, Wisconsin. Working in the nation’s capital has made Derek realize “how important it is to be involved in college, on campus and off. Leadership roles in student organizations and internships provide students with a taste of real responsibility and help develop the skills needed to get a job out of college. This is especially true in a tight economic climate. Just getting a degree isn’t enough anymore, you have to prove your value to any potential employer.”

Beth Biagi (2010)
Beth started with Boston Scientific as a contractor in US Sales Support for the Cardiac Rhythm Management division in Arden Hills (August 2011). Officially hired in April 2012, she was the lead member of the Move In Field Team, a core team member for the Women’s Network Professional Development Team and an active member of the Young Professionals Network. She is excited to start her new position as a Global Supply Chain Planner for the Peripheral Interventions division (February 2013). Here she will be executing the demand planning for vascular stents which are manufactured in Costa Rica. Beth earned her Bachelors of Science in Political Science and International Studies from the University of Wisconsin, River Falls. During her time at River Falls, she was a member of the International Relations Club and had the opportunity to take part in two Arrowhead Model United Nations Conferences, the 2010 Wisconsin Political Science Association Conference as well as a study abroad tour in Germany. Currently, she is pursuing her MBA with a Global Business Management Concentration at Bethel University.

Stephanie Foust (1996)
Stephanie was a stay at home mom following graduation; however she now has a position where she is using her Political Science degree. Stephanie is currently the Deputy Clerk in Fountain City, Wis. She has only been there for a short time; but she loves what she is doing and is proud to be taking after her mother who was a town clerk for many years. While at UWRF Stephanie was involved in the United Nations Club and Environmental Club. She also had an internship with the city of Winona where she spent time creating an employee handbook, and learned a good deal about how to do her current job.

Nathan Ehalt (2003)
As Community Development Director, Nathan is in charge of community and economic development, long range capital improvement planning, utility and general fund budgeting and also recreation. Nathan has been a part of cleaning up contaminated sites, writing and receiving grants for more than $1.2 million and assisting in preparing long range development plans and strategies.

While at UWRF Nathan worked full-time to help keep his debt burden manageable. He was highly involved in UWRF Bushwackers and also ran the climbing wall. He had an internship with MN Speaker of the House and ran two MN State Representatives campaigns while in college. “The hands on experience and pace of elections was something to be desired and still brings me back to my passion for political science.”
Alumni Profiles (continued)

Nathan would recommend that in order to be successful after graduation students should get out and seek internships in the field you desire to work. “Even if you need to offer your services and receive no pay in return, the relationships and experience will propel you ahead of your classmates. A stellar GPA may get you an interview, but experience will get you the job!”

John Carow (1965)
After graduating from UWR in 1965, John began working for State Farm handling insurance claims and worked his way up to Claims Superintendent. He was with State Farm for 37 years prior to his retirement. He and his wife have a cabin on Little Clam Lake in Siren, Wisconsin and they enjoy spending most of their time there in the summer.

John said that he really enjoyed all the good times he had at UWR. “It was a great opportunity to hang out with and really get to know the people that you came to associate with.” While at UWR John was involved in the Economics Club and especially enjoyed his political science classes as well as Economics classes with Dr. Darr.

“Students have to do their best to excel while in college. They may not think it means much, but having a good GPA can really be beneficial. Everyone should take advantage of the communication courses offered because you absolutely need communication skills for any job you might want to do in the future.”

Kristi Polzin (1987)
Kristi and her husband Jonathan own their own company called The Almond Tree which they created in 1989. The Almond Tree is a nuts and candy store in Wausau, Wis.

While at UWR, Kristi was very involved with the Model UN club, Student Senate and choir. She had a summer internship that lasted six weeks with the United Nations in Manhattan. Kristi said that the experience that she received from that internship was incredible and that she is glad she got to do it. “For students to succeed after graduation, they must plan their goals and always be ready to work hard. If you don’t work hard then you won’t be able to really succeed. Students need to be flexible as well because you never know what may happen in life.”

Kristi and her husband Jonathan currently live in Wausau, Wis. and have four wonderful children.

Alberta Cylkowski (1991)
Alberta has been the Supervisor for the Child Support Division in Dakota County in St. Paul, Minnesota for nearly 20 years. She and her husband Jim have been married for 42 years and have two children and three grandchildren.

Alberta was greatly influenced by the professors at UWR. She loved how hands-on everything was. “I was so impressed by how much you could see that the professors actually cared about the students and their education. They really facilitated good learning.”

While at UWR Alberta had a summer internship working on Minnesota State Representative Steve Sviggum’s campaign. She made and handed out a lot of brochures, but also got to meet many different people. If there were time conflicts for Sviggum, she would fill in for him talking with people.

She said that students must be aware of how internships are really the key to getting the experience needed to get a job someday. She thinks that students should find something to do that they might be interested in, but also realize that the reality out in the job world can be very different from what is experienced through internships.

Amy Mell (1994)
Amy currently works as the City Administrator in Rush City, Minn. She has been in that position for seven years and before becoming the City Administrator she served as the Deputy Clerk as well. She said that because Rush City is a smaller city, she is in charge of some things that a City Administrator in a bigger city would not be in charge of.

While at UWR Amy was a part of the Pom Squad and worked for the Student Voice on the business side of things as she was a business minor. She also had an internship in Rush City which gave her a great deal of experience and was a good precursor to the job she has today. Amy met some really good friends who were also political science majors at UWR and really loved the Chair of the Political Science Department at the time, Tracey Gladstone. She said that Tracey was the one who helped her get her internship.

For success after graduation Amy said that students must always work hard in classes and take as many general education courses as possible to really broaden their horizons.

Amy and her husband Craig, also a UWR graduate, have two daughters, one in 6th grade and the other a junior in high school.

Send us your news!
We are proud of the amazing accomplishments of our graduates. Please e-mail your greetings to us at: POLSnewsletter@uwrf.edu so we can include your news in a future newsletter.

Nathan Cook (2006)
Nathan is an insurance agent for Erickson Insurance in the Twin Cities. He has worked with this company for two years and although he isn’t using his Political Science degree, he does like his job.

While at UWR Nathan served as a senator on Student Senate for one year. He also had an internship with the Minnesota State Senate in the spring of 2006 just before he graduated. He said that he really enjoyed the experience of his internship, but all of the behind the scenes stuff was not for him and therefore he never pursued a career on that path.

Nathan really enjoyed the Senior Seminar class for Political Science majors and said that the research was really important and that he is glad that all majors are required to take the class as it is very beneficial.

Nathan said that in order for students to succeed after graduation they must be open-minded. “You really never know what kinds of opportunities will come up. They might be different from what you hoped or expected, but you just have to start somewhere so always be open-minded.”

Edwin Churchill (1964)
Ed graduated from UWR in 1964 with a Bachelors degree in Political Science, but he decided to continue his education and received his Masters degree four years later in 1968. Ed is currently retired, but worked as Chief Curator at the Maine State
Alumni Profiles (Continued)

Dennis Dobson (1989)
Dennis currently works as an English teacher at the Mahtomedi Middle School in Mahtomedi, Minn. He teaches American History and has been at the school for 19 years. While at UWRF Dennis was involved in a few different intramural sports, mainly volleyball. He met his wife Jean while he was here and she may have inspired him to teach as she was an Elementary Education major. Dennis said that he really liked the close knit feel of the University and how great the campus community was.

For success after graduation Dennis recommends that students gain any experience that they can. This is extremely important no matter what type of job you want to do after graduation and the more experience you have the better. “You also really need to understand what is professional.” Dennis and his wife Jean currently live in Baldwin, Wis. and have three beautiful daughters.

Elvira Sigmund (1993)
Elvira has been working as a bus driver in the Red Wing school district for 15 years. She loves the kids and says that they really make her job enjoyable. She only drives in the morning as she is an in home care worker for developmentally disabled people in the afternoons. She has been doing in home care for 24 years.

Elvira was not really involved in any clubs or other activities while at UWRF because she was a non-traditional student and therefore quite a bit older. She said that her most memorable experience at UWRF was that she had a political science class with Cathy Wurzer who now works for Minnesota Public Radio and hosts the Morning Edition. Elvira listens to her show on her bus route. For success after graduation Elvira suggests that students have a really good foundation and create goals for themselves. “You have to work hard because you’re going to get out of it what you put into it. Always love what you are doing and be flexible!” Elvira lives in Hager City, Wisc. with her Yorkie, Figgy.

Wayne Weiss (1968)
Wayne worked in sales for Oscar Mayer, part of Kraft Foods for many years and is now happily retired. He spends his time running Student International Ministry at UW-Madison with his wife Suzanne and leads a Bible study weekly at a nursing home.

While at UWRF Wayne was a double major in Economics and Political Science and was involved in Student Senate, a member of Theta Chi and part of the University Activity Board. One of the most memorable things from his time here was being a part of the Student Foundation Committee and raising money for projects like the Melvin Wall Amphitheatre.

Wayne said that for students to succeed after graduation they have to not be afraid to work. “You really have to have a good work ethic and stick to it!” Wayne and Suzanne have three children and three grandchildren. In his free time Wayne likes to read, go for walks and spend time with his grandchildren.

Frank Scheide (1971)
Frank has been a professor in the Communications Department at the University of Arkansas since 1977. He teaches Film Lecture, American Film Survey and International Film. He is the author of Introductory Film Criticism: A Historical Perspective, and his catalog of out-takes from films made by Charles Chaplin between 1916 and 1952 has been published on-line by the British Film Institute in London, England.

While at UWRF Frank went on a trip to Russia with the Russian Civilization class and had a summer internship with the United Nations in New York City. He was a double major in Political Science and History. Frank said that one of the most memorable things from his time at UWRF was the debate he participated in through the Pre-Law program. He said that UWRF has some really excellent faculty.
Alumni Profiles (continued)

Frank recommends that anyone who wants to teach should really be versatile and have some areas of specialization. For all students he said that it is important for them to take advantage of the experiences that are available. Frank and his wife Susan have two children and live in Fayetteville, Ark.

George Wilbur (1992)
George has worked as an attorney for 17 years in his own practice, Law Office of George C. Wilbur. His legal specialties are bankruptcy, criminal, probate and real estate.
Besides his political science major, George also minored in journalism and sociology. While at UWRF he was involved with the College Democrats, participated in Student Senate and worked for the Student Voice and the campus radio station WRFW.
He has fond memories of professors, especially Ray Anderson who was one of the best. George had an internship with a lobbyist group in Washington D.C. and said that it was a really good experience. “My most memorable experience from UWRF is most definitely that I met my wife there!”
Wayne Kantola (1987)
Wayne has worked as Chief Operating Officer for Financial Recovery Services in Edina, MN since 2007. In his position he is responsible for all of the operations of the 250 person company.
While at UWRF Wayne was heavily involved with Student Senate. He also served as a United Council representative. Wayne had an internship with a lobbyist group in Washington D.C. and said that it was a really good experience. “My most memorable experience from UWRF is most definitely that I met my wife there!”
Wayne stressed the importance of hard work. He said that students have to learn how to work hard if they plan on going anywhere and succeeding in whatever positions they may acquire. “Hard work is without a doubt the most important thing.”
Wayne and his wife Sarah, an Elementary Education major at UWRF, have two children and currently live in Woodbury, Minn.

George C. Wilbur. His legal specialties are bankruptcy, criminal, probate and real estate.

Michael Moe (1968)
Michael is currently retired, but served as a Vice President of International Sales for about three years before retirement. Michael was also self employed for a few years and worked in the Milwaukee area before that. He has travelled all over the world and even lived in Greece for a few years.
While at UWRF Michael was a part of Pi Sigma Alpha, the Political Science honor society. Duane said that one of the most memorable experiences from his time at UWRF was traveling to Soviet Central Asia as a part of his Russian Civilization class.
For students to succeed after they graduate Duane said that they should really pursue some kind of internship. “They just have to actively seek experience and get all that they can because that’s what really matters out in the real world is the experience.”
Duane and his wife Raeann have two children, Eli who is 7-years-old and Halle who is 5-years-old and live in Cottage Grove, Minn.

Michael and his wife Darcy have been married over 45 years and have three children and ten wonderful grandchildren.

Allison Kier (1999)
Allison currently works as a Case Manager for Catholic Charities in St. Paul, Minn. The job is relatively new to her, but she likes it very much. Allison works with homeless, low-income and high-risk families.
Allison was a transfer student, but got involved at UWRF playing on the rugby team. She remembers having history classes with Professor Leichtle that were really good and very memorable. Allison said that her most memorable experience from UWRF is probably meeting her husband here.
“in order for students to succeed after they graduate they really need to learn what it means to budget. They also must be prepared for a ridiculous amount of job searching and should network as much as they possibly can.”
Allison and her husband Ty, also a UWRF grad, have two children, 13 and 11.

Thomas Kohls (1975)
Thomas currently works in the food industry as the Plant Manager at Daybreak Foods in Lake Mills, Wis. He was the Plant Superintendent before that for a long time and also Plant Supervisor. Most of his experience is in meat processing, but also in frozen appetizer production and egg processing.
While at UWRF Tom was a part of the Student Voice staff and was also a member of the fraternity Phi Sigma Epsilon which later merged with Phi Sigma Kappa. He said that his most
Thomas Kohls (Continued) memorable moment from being at UWRF was when he met his wife here. Thomas stressed the importance of getting an internship so that you have the experience necessary to go out and get a job after graduation. “No matter what you always have to work your butt off. That’s honestly the best way to get anywhere.” Thomas and his wife Donna have been married for over 35 years and currently live in Fort Atkinson, Wis.

Ray Anderson and World War II

Many of you know Ray Anderson, long-time faculty member and chair of the political science department. What you might not know is that Ray is a veteran of the Second World War. He enlisted in an officers’ V-7 Navy Training program and was commissioned as Ensign in the United States Naval Reserves. During training he traveled through the southern United States, before moving with his crew through the Panama Canal en route to Hawaii, after which he participated in five invasions, including General Douglas MacArthur’s return to the Philippines. Ray was promoted to Lieutenant and remained on active duty until May 1946. He was in the reserves for several more years. If you would like to read more about his service in World War II, his personal account can be accessed at: http://www.uwrf.edu/POLS/AboutPOLS/upload/Ray-Anderson-and-World-War-II.pdf

Ray lives in River Falls, and continues to enjoy his gardening, meeting friends, discussing politics, and hearing from alumni.

Political Science Students Receive Honors and Scholarships

Each year UWRF recognizes students for outstanding educational achievement and/or community service.

HONORS

CONGRATULATIONS to Political Science major Jeremy Singleton, who graduated with Senior Merit honors and to Jonathan Williams, International Studies major who graduated Magna Cum Laude.

THE CHANCELLOR’S AWARD recognizes students who possess the qualities of leadership, service, and commitment and acknowledges a student’s unique personal traits and skills. This award is granted to upper class students and is not solely based on scholastic achievement. Ashley Goettl 2013 recipient

SCHOLARSHIPS

Dr. Ray Anderson Scholarship: awarded to a political science major/minor who has completed a least six semester hours in political science, active in partisan or nonpartisan politics at the national, state, or local level, or in student government. Preference is given to students who are involved in environmental politics. Mathew Steward, 2013-14 recipient.

Robert L. Berg Scholarship: awarded to a student in political science, has completed at least 60 credits with 8 credits in political science, has demonstrated leadership ability, and a GPA of no less than 3.0. Austin Knott, 2013-14 recipient.

Richard J. and Maurine K. Brynildsen Scholarship: awarded to a sophomore, junior or senior student with a political science major. The student must have an interest in international affairs and be in good academic standing. Sofie Gohlke, 2013-14 recipient.

Denis P. Hickey Memorial Scholarship: awarded to a junior majoring in political science who has completed 60 or more credits, is in the upper third of the class, shows evidence of leadership through active participation in school, church, or community, and be satisfactorily progressing toward a degree. Morgan Stippel, 2013-14 recipient.

Dominic Svec Family Memorial Scholarship: must be majoring in political science with preference given to a student from the Ellsworth area and seriously considering working for the federal or state government in some capacity. Nicholas Vanden Heuvel, 2013-14 recipient.

Charles and Patricia White Scholarship: awarded to a student in good standing in the College of Arts and Sciences who is pursuing the Pre-Law Curriculum. Daniel Robinson, 2013-14 recipient.

Kenneth S. White Memorial Scholarship: awarded to a sophomore or junior political science major pursuing the pre-law curriculum and with the highest GPA. Morgan Stippel, 2013-14 recipient.

Lew Garrison Coit Scholarship: awarded to students who have an outstanding academic record (preferably in government or economic-related courses), demonstrated leadership ability, and satisfactory deportment. Gradon Nelson 2013-14 recipient.
My Experience in Germany by Michael Engelhardt

Last May, twenty of my classmates and I traveled to Germany as part of a study abroad trip to study the politics of German-speaking Europe. We began our trip high in the Bavarian Alps in the town of Berchtesgaden. There we learned about the importance of salt to the local economy, the history surrounding the Nazi Party in the area of Hitler’s Eagles Nest and explored the beautiful Lake Königsee (King’s Lake).

From there, about half the group took a short bus ride across the border into Austria to spend a couple days in the historic city of Salzburg. There, the members of our group headed up to the towering fortress of Hohensalzburg high above the city and explored the many sights and sounds of Salzburg’s historic city center, including such sights as Mozart’s residence and birthplace and the beautiful Mirabell Gardens.

The whole group met up once again in Munich, Germany where we were able to experience both the revelry of a dinner at the famous Hofbrauhaus beer hall and the somberness of a day spent at Dachau Concentration Camp outside the city. Our group was also able to experience a unique event when Munich was the host of the European Soccer Championship game featuring the home town team, Bayern Munich. This was an exciting moment because the streets were packed with soccer fans from all over Germany and Europe. It was truly a unique way to experience European culture.

After Munich our group went on to Germany’s capital Berlin. There we learned about the complex 20th century history of the city through a walking tour that featured such sites as the Berlin Wall, Museum Island and the Brandenburg Gate at the end of Berlin’s famous boulevard, Unter den Linden. After learning about the history of the city, we got an inside look at German politics with a tour of the Reichstag, the home of the German Bundes- tag, or parliament. There we were able to learn about the makeup of their political system and the interaction of the many different political parties that make up the legislative body.

Our group ended our two and half week tour of Germany in the medieval city of Rothenburg ob der Tauber. This perfectly preserved town from the middle ages has a completely intact medieval wall and offers spectacular views of the river valley below. While there, we were able to experience a medieval festival known as the Der Meistertrunk, “the Master Draught”. This was an amazing experience that included hundreds of people in period dress; period weapons demonstrations including cannon firing, and a large parade through the heart of the city.

My two and half weeks in Germany were one of the most memorable experiences of my life. Being able to travel to so many different cities around the country was especially wonderful. I was also able to learn about the history, culture and politics first hand in a country that experienced some of the most important events of the 20th century. I consider myself lucky that I was able to have such an experience during my college career that also benefited me academically.