

Alumni Newsletter

Congratulations to EMU students in mock trial

A team of Eagles finished second in the regional tournament at EMU; another was honored as the event's top team in terms of character and sportsmanship



A team from Eastern Michigan University placed second overall in a mock trial competition this winter. The team competed against 22 squads from around the Midwest. Eastern's other team was honored for its sportsmanship and character.

The regional tournament, held on February 16-17 at Eastern Michigan, included teams from Adrian College, Ball State University, Case Western Reserve, Central Michigan University, Hillsdale College, Michigan State, Northwestern, Ohio Northern, SUNY Buffalo, the University of Michigan, the University of Rochester, the University of Toledo, and Valparaiso.

The runner-up Eastern team topped squads from the University of Michigan, Michigan State and Hillsdale along with the rest of the field.

Many alumni served as judges for the tournament, and more than 30 gathered one evening at The Sidetrack to catch up. They shared stories, and raised funds for EMU's Mock Trial and Moot Court teams.



Charles Graham was ranked outstanding in both the defense and plaintiff categories, the only double attorney award at the regional.

Model United Nations

Attended conferences in Toronto, Canada, and Madrid, Spain

The EMU Model United Nations program had another excellent year of experiential learning through simulated international diplomacy. In Fall 2018, 20 students represented Syria and Romania at the American Model UN conference in Chicago with 1,400 students from across the U.S. and the world, winning an outstanding delegation award and two position paper awards.



In Winter 2019, 6 students participated in the North American Model UN conference in Toronto, which included historical and contemporary crisis scenarios ranging from the War of the Spanish Succession (where committee sessions were conducted entirely in French) to Stalin's Politburo and the Sierra Leone civil war. Another 6 students represented Ireland at the Harvard World Model UN conference in Madrid, working with 1,800 students from 130 countries to

find peaceful solutions to global problems.



In addition to participating in these Model UN conferences with Profs. Ebrahim Soltani and Richard Stahler-Sholk, 4 students traveled with Prof. Judith Kullberg to a Model European Union conference at Bowling Green State University, where first-time EMU participants came home with awards. The opportunity to consider issues from the perspective of other countries, and to discuss those issues with peers from around the world, offers a valuable practical complement to our International Affairs program and prepares students for their responsibilities as global citizens.

39th ANNUAL UNDERGRADUATE SYMPOSIUM

Once again this year, Political Science was among the most represented departments at the annual Undergraduate Symposium. This included 18 research projects by 20 students, three of whom had won a prestigious Symposium Undergraduate Research Fellowship.

In addition, the Symposium keynote speaker was alumnus Robert Murkowski (2006), who was introduced by Professor Barry Pyle. In the photo, student Andrew Lawrence discusses his research with Arts and Sciences Dean Dana Heller.



Find us On Facebook

Receive updates about program activities, networking opportunities, and current events. Search for us on Facebook under **Eastern Michigan Political Science Alumni.**



Political Science Award Ceremony

The department held its annual honors event on March 28 at the Ladies' Literary Club in downtown Ypsilanti. The program honored scholarship recipients, students of the year, academic teams, honors graduates, and Pi Sigma Alpha inductees.

Congratulations

Scholarship Recipients:

Richard Fierens Memorial Scholarship

Kelsey Hall

Jack Swartzinski

James H. Brickley Scholarship

Kevin Hartley

David Hortin Public Law Scholarship

Lily Nwanesi

Robert McWilliams Scholarship

Taylor Lawrence

Ashton Marr

Joe Ohren Student Internship Fund

Jordan Weeks, Washtenaw County Public Defender

(summer 2019)

Study Abroad Scholarship

Eva Koelzer, Salamanca, Spain (fall 2019)

Student of the Year:

Political Science

Edin Bukva

Public & Nonprofit Administration

Nichole Allain

Noel Eddy

International Affairs

Maria Perdomo Garcia

Abigail Vermeulen

Public Safety

Joseph Labrosse, II

PI SIGMA ALPHA INITIATES Political Science Honor Society

Joseph Labrosse, II

Taylor Lawrence

Anna Newmyer

Lily Nwanesi

Hunter Butkovic

Alexa Cooley

Kevin Hartley

Lindsey Redmond

Marisa Salice

Samantha VanDuser

Jordan Weeks

Lauren Danke



Dr. Kullberg presenting awards to members of the Model European Union team.

Keep in touch! Let us know about your personal and professional achievements:

political.science@emich.edu

SENIORS GRADUATING WITH HONORS

Abigail Bongiorno

Jacob Borst

Austin Creal

Mia Teresa Colavito

Savannah Ferrante

Maria Paula Perdomo Garcia

Olivia Grills

Jessica Lowe

Cierra McKinney

Abigail Vermeulen

Lauren Williams

Faculty News

Jeffrey L. Bernstein enjoyed a productive and restorative sabbatical during the winter 2019 semester. He plans to return to the classroom in the fall to teach the stats class (hopefully with the right mix of rigor and compassion), and to continue on with multiple research projects he started during the sabbatical.

Professor Arnold Fleischmann received the Dr. Toni Stokes-Jones Award on April 5 from the McNair Scholars program, for which **Professor Richard Stahler-Sholk** is serving as faculty mentor for two students during 2019-2020.

Dr. Beth Henschen has been awarded a coveted EMU Faculty Research Fellowship for winter 2020. Her project will be the first comprehensive analysis of State of the Judiciary addresses delivered by chief justices of state supreme courts. She will be able to hire student help for the research, which will code more than 300 addresses and help understand the views of chief justices on the management of state court systems.

Dr. Tucker Staley has received a highly competitive EMU Summer Research/Creative Activity Award to begin a new project examining the impact of the Washtenaw Coordinated Funders program on both the revenue streams and organizational capacity of nonprofit organizations in Washtenaw County.

Dr. Gregory Plagens published an article "Horseplay or sexual harassment: Discipline and due process in the Michigan Department of Corrections." *Journal of Public Affairs Education* 25:1 (2019): 115-132.

Alumni News

Congratulation to EMU alumna **Frances McMullan**, who became new city manager of Ypsilanti. Frances graduated from EMU in 1990 as a Public Law and Government major.

Christopher A. Knight (2012) has joined the Chicago office of global law firm Mayer Brown.

Nino Monea (2014) joined the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps as a first lieutenant. After completing military and legal training and The Army JAG School, he is stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, providing legal assistance to soldiers with issues such as landlord-tenant disputes, consumer protection claims, divorces, wills, and Army administrative actions.

Donate to the Political Science Department

Donations to the Political Science Department can be made using the following link:

<http://www.emich.edu/polisci/donate/index.php>