Model Arab League Had Outstanding Year
By Jeffrey Drennan

The KSU Model Arab League did an outstanding job this year at both the Southern Regional and National Model Arab League conferences. The team represented the country of Sudan, and brought home awards in 6 out of the 8 committees during the National conference for a total of 10 out of the 14 delegates.

Katie Sizemore was awarded an individual awards at both spring conferences while also serving as Vice Chair of the Political Affairs Committee. Dustin Taylor received an award at both conferences in the Political Affairs Committee. Marshall Watson was awarded individual awards at both conference representing in the Palestinian Affairs Committee Mohamad Said also received two awards while in the Palestinian Affairs Committee. Jessie Belk was awarded an individual delegate award for work in the Joint Defense Committee during the National Conference.

Javier Vilchis was also awarded an award for work in the Joint Defense Committee. Ali Hussain and Damaso Saka were both awarded individual awards for representation in the Social Affairs Committee. Hina Asghar was also recognized for being a Judge on the Arab Court of justice. Marshall Watson and Mohammad Said were two of only ten students invited by the National Council on Arab Relations to spend two weeks in Saudi Arabia in June. As captain of this year’s team, I worked in a single delegation, received an individual award in both Southeast Regional and the National conference in the Special Committee on Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons.

We would also like to Mrs. Linda Morrisson and Dr. Thomas Doleys for volunteering their time and energy by advising and traveling with the Model Arab League team.

2010 Student Honorees

Outstanding Political Science Student
Emily Jayne Hyndman
Faculty Honoree: Dr. Tara Stricko

Outstanding International Affairs Student
Laura Elena Nava
Faculty Honoree: Dr. Jack Moran

Outstanding MPA Graduate Student
Rhonda Nicole Hill
Faculty Honoree: Dr. Andrew Ewoh

Outstanding MSCM Graduate Student
Edoh Agbehonou
Faculty Honoree: Dr. Linda Johnson
ANOTHER BANNER YEAR FOR STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Pi Sigma Alpha

The national honor society for Political Science. Inductees to Pi Sigma Alpha have shown excellence in the study of Political Science and a commitment to leadership. The faculty advisor is Dr. Andrew Pieper.

Newly inducted members for the 2009-2010 academic year are:

Samantha Bowen  Jeffrey Drennan  Mohammad Said
Rebecca Brooks  Meghan Ellison  Craig Smith
Douglas Comin  Andrea Ghavamian
Benjamin Conklin  Andrew Gibbs

Model UN

The KSU Model UN Team continued its streak of excellence, taking 25 delegates to the National Model United Nations at the Marriott Marquis in New York in April. Ireland, with Nikola Kolev as country chair, won a distinguished delegation award, and four of the Ireland team members were recognized by their committees as outstanding delegates. Competition was fierce from the 3500 students from universities from all over the world.

The KSU Team:

Ali Abedi  Coy Dumas  Chiara Norce
Jean Akakpo  Michael Dutcher  Claire Ogee
Arijana Alic  Rebecca Gallegos  Olamide Pariola
Hina Asghar  Gerladine Galue  Punit Patel
Kristie Azaroff  Kasim Hasan  Sal Sandal
Lauren Bencini  Ryan Herz  Heather Sigley
Anisha Bhandari  John Silva  Alexa Higginbotham
Ryan Bleckley  Chris Jackson  Donnie Smith
Sara Johnson  Renee Tomczak  Nick Bohnenkamp
Valerie Bouzy  Nikola Kolev  Stefanie Vaught
Matthew Cole  Peter Logsdon  Victoria Vaught
Doug Comin  Caitlin Minter  Jeff Wilson
Jeff Drennan  Aleksandra Ninova  Dan Zimmerman
Model Arab League

Continued from page 1 story:

The full KSU Model Arab League team includes:

Jessie Belk  Shadi Jaraysi  Dustin Taylor
Kristen Carusos  Mohammad Said  Javier Vilchis
Jeff Drennan  Damaso Saka  Marshall Watson
Michael Flores  Kristen Schaeff  Christian Wintsch
Ali Hussain  Katie Sizemore

Mock Trial

The KSU Mock Trial team hosted its first tournament in November, the First Annual Owl Classic. The team also competed in tournaments at Duke, UGA, and Ga Tech. Several students secured bids to the National Championship Mock Trial at Furman University. At tournaments throughout the year, a number of students won individual awards, including Lynn Zibanejerd, who won an outstanding witness award, and Brittany Briggs, Joe Roesch, and Marc Davis, who won outstanding attorney awards. Advisors are Dr. Elizabeth Gordon and Dr. William Gillespie. Team members include:

Jessica Bonesteel  Heather Fix  Kristin Poland
Brittany Briggs  Megan Giordano  Joe Roesch
Miranda Brown  Ian Hail  Adam Strotman
Marc Davis  Collin Hatcher  Lynn Zibanejerd
Glen Doty  Galen Joyce  Haley Everson

Model African Union

The KSU Model African Union continued to earn its reputation for excellence. The team received five awards at its 2010 national conference. Assana Alio, Kareen Fobuzie, and Caroline Ofulah were selected to serve as officers for their committees. The team is currently working with Medshare International to send a shipment of drugs to Sudan. Advisor is Dr. Nurudeen Akinyemi. Team members include:

Ali Abedi  Lainkor Deng  Marcel Maglo
Assana Alio  Carlton Duncan  Samantha Manedown
Kareen Fabuzie  Caroline Ofulah  Kharendaawn Andrews
Jamihla Bobboy  Kasim Hasan  Ifeoluwa Onabanjo
Owen Chilongo  Alan Herrera  Trevor Sharpe
Kerry-Ann Coote  Fungai Karprenzi  Silvia Trejo
Student Update

Justin Freeborn (POLs) recently graduated law school and passed the California bar. He is a staff attorney with the Western States Pension Assistance Project in Sacramento, CA.

Laura Keen (POLs 10) interned at the Georgia General Assembly in the 2010 session as a participant in the GA Legislative Intern Program.

Valerie Barrios Cagle (POLs 03) is attending Tulane Medical School.

Joanna Conlon (IA 07) is a staff coordinator with the British Consulate in Atlanta.

Derrick Dickey (POLs 05) is chief strategist for the gubernatorial campaign of GA state senator Eric Johnson.

Alums completing their second year of law school: Katherine Knudsen, Christopher Chappell, Matthew Rollins, Sara Vorobjovs, Greg Clement.

Carolina Grenados (IA 05) is a contractor for the Centers for Disease Control, facilitating review panels in the CDC’s Global Aids Program.

Nick Ayers (POLs 10) was recently profiled in The Washington Post. As Executive Director of the Republican Governors Association in Washington, D.C., he has lead the organization to a premier position in national politics.

Marcela Guerrero (IA 02) works at Freedom House as a program officer for the Johannesburg Area, South Africa. She also received a Master’s Degree in Public Policy from Syracuse University.

William Grogan (MPA 08), former Marietta deputy police chief, is now the police chief of the city of Dunwoody.

Natalia Meneses (IA 04, MPA 08) is graduate coordinator for the MPA program and newly approved MS in International Policy Management.

Faith Riley (IA 08) is the Southeast Regional Project Coordinator for the “Not for Sale Campaign,” an anti-Human Trafficking non-profit organization.
IA/MSCM Graduate Pursues Global Health Career

**Gloria Sandoval** (IA, ’04, MSCM, ’05)
Global Health Recruitment Coordinator
Centers for Disease Control

I was asked to write about how my education helps me in my current position as the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Global Health Recruitment Coordinator for this newsletter. Being a Kennesaw State University (KSU) alumnus with both of my degrees — BA in International Affairs (2004) and MS in Conflict Management (2005) — from KSU says a lot about my university. KSU prepared me well for my current position. I work with all CDC Global Programs to develop, implement and coordinate recruitment efforts to attract the world’s best public health professionals for our domestic and international positions. Attracting world-wide talent isn’t easy and in order to do so, I use every bit of learning and skills obtained at KSU.

My International Affairs’ classes prepared me to research and understand the different environments and needs that people in diverse countries have, which helps me find the best candidates for every location and vacancy. My concentration in Business, Economics and Policy helps me study the competition, develop, implement and evaluate business strategies as well as to produce, present and implement recommendations at all levels. My Master’s in Conflict Management helps me negotiate and reach agreements, resolve issues among our global programs, staff, vendors, and NGOs; and, it also makes my duties achievable. The knowledge and skills I acquired as a KSU undergraduate and graduate student helped me increase our applicant pool by 300% in only three years.

I remember those tough days and those difficult professors that forced me to go the extra mile, and I am thankful they did. Special thanks to my undergraduate advisor, Dr. Zebich-Knos who guided me through my educational choices, including my study abroad to Cuba, which I will always keep in my personal and professional treasure chest — and going straight from undergraduate to the Master’s program without taking those much desired vacations. Thanks KSU!

Grad School Bound

Political science graduate **Kevin Schmidt** spent much of his senior year engaged in independent scholarly research looking into recent debates among American conservatives. Under the supervision of Dr. Andrew Pieper, Kevin studied nearly 10 years of conservative publications *The American Spectator* and *National Review*. Kevin’s study, entitled “Bushwacked: Conservative Elites and the Bush Years” analyzed how conservative writers judged the policies of the George W. Bush administration. In addition to being honored at the Kennesaw State Undergraduate Research Reception on April 27, Kevin presented his findings on a panel at the Annual Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association in January. Kevin plans to attend the University of Georgia to pursue his Ph.D. in Political Science.
Faculty News & Notes

Jeff Dewitt published an article in *Journal of Faculty Development* titled “Using Collaborative Research Projects to Facilitate Active Learning in Methods Courses.” He also presented a paper at the 2010 annual meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association and was a panelist at the 2009 meeting of the American Political Science Association.

Maia Hallward and Tavishi Bhasin conducted a site visit in Turkey for a future study abroad program for the master program in International Policy Management. Dr. Hallward also participated in the Centennial Celebrations of the Ramallah Friends meeting. She also received funds from the Deborah Garner Professional Award to carry out research on local peace and justice issues.

Jack Moran published a book called *Solution of the Fist: Dostoevsky and the Roots of Modern Terrorism* (Lexington Press 2009). He was also named one of three finalists by the College of Humanities and Social Sciences in the Foundation Award for Scholarship.

Tata Stricko published a chapter in the *Encyclopedia of Political Science* called “Courts and Judicial Decision Making: A Comparative Perspective.” She also has a forthcoming entry in the *Encyclopedia of the Fourth Amendment* published by CQ Press.

Stephen Collins published articles in three academic journals, including the *Taiwan Journal of Democracy*, *The New England Journal of Political Science*, and *Foreign Policy Analysis*. He also delivered three papers, two at the International Studies Association meeting and one at the annual conference of the ISA South.

Susan Raines received a grant from the Center for Educational Leadership and Training in order to study the impact of mediation on social transformation in Israel. She also published articles in three journals, including *The Missouri Journal of Dispute Resolution*, *Human Values and Social Transformation*, and *Family Courts Review*. Two of the articles were co-authored with Dr. Timothy Hedeen.

Volker Franke published articles in seven journals, presented research at four academic conferences, and served on the boards of several international studies organizations. In Spring 2010 Dr. Volker was named the Interim Director of KSU’s new Ph.D. program in International Conflict Management.

Charity Butcher delivered a paper at the International Studies Association conference titled “Terrorism and Foreign Intervention in Intrastate Conflict.” She also served as a panel discussant and panel chair for two sections at the ISA meeting. She also served as a panel discussant for the “Politics of Terrorism” at the annual meeting of the GA Political Science Association.

Michele Zebich-Knos announced that the new Master’s program in International Policy Management has been included in the United State government’s Peace Corps Fellows/USA Program.
Richard Engstrom studies political geography and political behavior, and teaches courses in American Government, Research Methods and political behavior. He comes to KSU after holding faculty positions at Georgia State and the University of Wyoming, and he earned his PhD in 2001 at Rice University. Dr. Engstrom has published research articles in various scholarly journals such as Political Research Quarterly, The Review of Policy Research, and Electoral Studies. He is also very interested in the scholarship of teaching, and has published articles and book chapters on effective teaching methods in political science.

Charity Butcher joined the Department of Political Science and International Affairs at Kennesaw State University in 2009. Charity received her Ph.D. from Indiana University and has previously taught at Grinnell College in Iowa. Her research interests include international conflict, international rivalries, territorial disputes, the role of ethnicity in conflict, and terrorism. She has published book reviews in Comparative Political Studies and International Studies Review and has presented numerous papers at regional, national and international conferences.

Volker Franke joined KSU’s Department of Political Science and International Affairs as Associate Professor of Conflict Management in the fall of 2009. Prior to coming to KSU, Dr. Franke was Associate Professor of Political Science and International Studies at McDaniel College in Westminster, MD. From 2006-2008, he served as Director of Research at the Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC), one of Germany’s premier peace and conflict research and capacity building institutes. Currently, Dr. Franke also serves on the Scientific Advisory Board of the German Foundation of Peace Research. From 1998-2007, he was Director and Managing Editor of the National Security Studies Case Studies Program at Syracuse University.
Faculty Advisors

High School Model UN
Model Arab League
Mock Trial
Pi Sigma Alpha
Society for Legal Studies
Political Science Club
College Democrats
College Republicans
Model African Union
Model United Nations
Circle K
Common Cause KSU

Ms. Linda Morrisson/Mr. Steve McKelvey
Ms. Linda Morrisson
Dr. Elizabeth Gordon/Dr. William Gillespie
Dr. Andrew Pieper
Dr. Elizabeth Gordon
Dr. Andrew Pieper
Dr. Harold Wingfield
Dr. David Shock
Dr. Nurudeen Akinyemi
Ms. Linda Morrisson
Dr. Ulf Zimmermann
Dr. Kerwin Swint