

2009 UIC Department of Political Science Gift Account Prizes and Student Recognition

The faculty of the UIC Department of Political Science is proud to announce the following student awards and accomplishments during the academic year 2009:

Milton Rakove Memorial Award: International Topic - Best Paper

Undergraduate - Elyse Conklin \$1,000

"A Society-Centered Analysis of the Central American Free Trade Agreement."

Graduate - Matthew Powers \$1,000

"Military Intervention as a Cause of Transnational Terrorism?"

John Echols Memorial Award Comparative Politics - Best paper

First Prize: \$1,000 Saad Abid

Two runner-up awards

\$250 Arijana Dizdarevic

\$250 Rebecca Miller

Ron Brown Memorial Award Best Graduating Senior
(G.P.A., University Service, and POLS Major)

\$1,000--Dana Williams

Two runner-up awards

\$250 Brett Thurman

\$250 Oscar Pina

OTHER AWARDS

The following three Political Science majors were elected to Phi Beta Kappa in 2009. Phi Beta Kappa is the most prestigious undergraduate National Honor Society.

Kimberly Gipson (Junior)

Samuel Weller (Senior)

Dana Williams (Senior)

Honors College Prize recipients

UIC's Honors College is an option for undergraduates enrolled in the university's degree-granting colleges such as the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Honors College students must maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.40 (4.00 = "A") and complete an honors activity recommended by the college during spring and fall semesters. Students have access to special honors courses, premier faculty mentors, and are encouraged to participate in learning activities beyond the classroom.

Suemayah Abu-Douleh

Recipient of the Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Graduate Fellowship

A University of Illinois at Chicago Honors College student, Suemayah is one of 20 national recipients of the Charles B. Rangel International Affairs Graduate Fellowship for international studies. Charles B. Rangel has represented the 15th Congressional District of New York since 1971 as a Democratic member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Co-sponsored by the U.S. State Department and Howard University's Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center, the award provides up to \$34,000 annually for two years of graduate study in international affairs or another field related to the work of the U.S. Foreign Service.

Suemayah, a senior political science and mathematics major, will start the Rangel program this summer with an internship working for a member of Congress on Capitol Hill.

In the fall, Abu-Douleh will begin graduate studies related to international affairs at American University, Tufts University, or New York University. During the summer between her first and second year of graduate school she will participate in a second internship based abroad in a U.S. embassy.

After completing graduate school, the Rangel program and Foreign Service entry requirements, she will receive a three-year appointment as a Foreign Service officer.

Adam Kuranishi Critical Languages Scholarship

A junior at the University of Illinois at Chicago is among the recipients of this year's Critical Languages Scholarship from the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

Adam received the competitive award as part of the National Security Language Initiative, a U.S. government interagency effort to increase the number of Americans mastering critical-need languages.

The scholarship will cover Kuranishi's study of intermediate Arabic during a 10-week summer program at the American Institute for Maghrib Studies in Tangier, Morocco, as well as travel and living expenses. The program also offers intensive overseas study in Azerbaijani, Bangla/Bengali, Chinese, Hindi, Korean, Persian, Punjabi, Russian, Turkish and Urdu.

Mr. Kuranishi, an Honors College student majoring in political science and minoring in African-American studies, will use the scholarship to pursue interests he developed at UIC, including Arabic language, the Middle East and social justice.

Adam has won numerous scholarships and remains active in the community as a volunteer for the Metropolitan Tenants' Organization, a tenant-rights group. He is vice president and art director of One World, a student-run international affairs magazine.

Adam will remain in the Middle East to study Arabic and modern Islam at the University of Jordan in Amman during the fall semester. He plans to pursue a Ph.D. in Middle Eastern languages and culture after graduating from UIC in May 2010.

Pi Sigma Alpha

Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society, is the only honor society for college and university students of government in the United States. The number of Pi Sigma Alpha chapters on campuses across the country is rapidly approaching 700. Pi Sigma Alpha is a member of the Association of College Honor Societies.

Pi Sigma Alpha Members 2009

Ricky J. Breen Jr.
David Bulthuis
Kyle Colonna
Nathaniel Frey
Kyle Gorey
Rema Hisham Jawan
Alina Lyamets
Maryam Mesyef
David Michelberger
Rebecca Miller
Anders Milton
Anthony Panzani
Katarzyna Ryzewska
Kimberly Ann Schultz
Adam Sonderberg
Paris Tsangaris
Maggie M. Zarief

Political Science Department Head, Professor Dick Simpson, Professor Isaac Balbus, Director of Undergraduate Studies, and Beth Powers, Director, Special Scholarship Programs all attended the Student Recognition event, April 30, 2009.

