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THE ROCKEFELLER CENTER
AT DARTMOUTH COLLEGE

*A Center for Public Policy
and the Social Sciences*

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<http://rockefeller.dartmouth.edu>

Rockefeller Blitz Bulletin

Rockefeller.Center@Dartmouth.edu

PUBLIC INTEREST LAWYER IS THURLOW M. GORDON LECTURER



NAN ARON

*Founder and President,
Alliance for Justice*

The Politics of Judicial Selection & the Future of the Supreme Court

Thursday

January 26

4:30 PM

Filene Auditorium

Moore Hall

A leading voice in public interest law for over 30 years, Nan Aron is President of the Alliance for Justice, a national association of public interest and civil rights organizations. Aron, who founded the Alliance in 1979, guides the organization in its mission to advance the cause of justice for all Americans, strengthen the public interest community's influence on national policy, and foster the next generation of advocates.

In addition to increasing judicial advocacy, the Alliance supports workshops, technical assistance, and publications that encourage lobbying, involvement in ballot measures, and election activities. Aron has also developed advocacy training for young people through the creation of the Co/Motion and Student Action Campaign programs, which educate and inspire students to engage in social justice activism.

Recognized nationally for her expertise in public interest law, the federal judiciary, and citizen participation in public policy, she is the author of *Liberty and Justice for All: Public Interest Law in the 1980s and Beyond* and has appeared as an expert in numerous media outlets.

Prior to founding the Alliance, Aron was a staff attorney for the ACLU's National Prison Project, where she challenged conditions in state prison systems through lawsuits in federal and state courts. As a trial attorney for the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, she litigated race and sex discrimination cases against companies and unions in federal and district courts.

Jointly sponsored with the Daniel Webster Legal Society



MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION

Events schedule and information at www.dartmouth.edu/~ide/programs/mlk or 646-3749

NEW INDEPENDENT STUDY OPTION AT ROCKY

Students who take full immersion internships frequently discover new passions. The inspiration could come from exposure to a new culture, a particular political issue, an apparent injustice, or simply seeing how the world really works in the civic sectors. Yet, when students return to campus, there is often no clear way to take that new passion and integrate it into their academic work ... until now.

Building on the success of the Civic Skills Training (CST) program, which prepares students to take advantage of their internships more effectively and to build leadership skills, the Rockefeller Center will offer *Public Policy 91 (PBPL 91)*. Starting in the winter term, students who participated in the September 2005 Civic Skills Training followed by a full immersion internship in fall term will be eligible to enroll in the new independent study course to hone their skills further while undertaking a significant research project inspired by their internship. Participants in all future CSTs can look forward to the *PBPL 91* option when they return to campus.

As part of the course requirements, students will be expected to publish an op-ed in a non-campus paper, complete an academic research project, and present their findings to stakeholders outside of Dartmouth who could take action on the issue in the real world. Some readings will be common to the course, but most will be tailored to the student's specific project. If multiple students are enrolled in *PBPL 91*, participants will come together once a week to share ideas and challenges and may work in teams to help revise writing projects and prepare for presentations. *PBPL 91* can be used to satisfy the Public Policy Minor course requirements.

Other *PBPL 91* options available in winter and spring terms will be for students who complete *PBPL 90, Introduction to Public Policy Research*, in fall term. An option for participants in the Rockefeller Leadership Fellows program is currently under development.

For more information about the new Public Policy independent study, connect to <http://rockefeller.dartmouth.edu/students/academics/minor> or contact Ronald.Shaiko@Dartmouth.edu



Rocky Student Discussion Group Leaders take a break from their fall term orientation and training. Front Row, left to right: Chelsea Jia '08 (Women in Leadership); Stephen Cesaro '07 (Daniel Webster Legal Society); Sarah Ludlin '08 (Daniel Webster Legal Society). Middle Row, left to right: Pamela Thomas '06 (Outreach); Kapil Kale '06 (AGORA); Julie Kim '06 (AGORA); Emily Jones '08 (Outreach); Shermaine Jones '06 (Women in Leadership). Back Row, left to right: Adam Sigelman '05 (First Year Forum); Chris Leach '06 (PoliTALK); Jason Beeler '06 (Parliamentary Debate); Katharine Chen '06 (First Year Forum); Jiamie Chen '06 (Daniel Webster Legal Society); James Seidman '06 (PoliTALK).

Public Policy Minor New Courses

WINTER 2006

PBPL 81.4
*U.S. Broadcast and Electronic
Journalism History*

MARK J. WILLIAMS, 2A

SPRING 2006

PBPL 81.3
*Urban Politics and Policies:
Transatlantic Perspectives*

MARK DAVIDSON, 2A

PBPL 81.5
*Poverty, the New Economy, and
Employment Policy*

MATISSA HOLLISTER, 10A

For a complete list of PPM courses:
<http://rockefeller.dartmouth.edu/students/academics/minor>

IMPORTANT DEADLINES FOR SPRING '06 OPPORTUNITIES

Public Affairs & Public Policy
INTERNSHIP GRANTS

CIVIC SKILLS TRAINING
in Washington, DC
March 17-22

Application deadline:
Thursday • February 9 • 4:00 PM
Rocky 203

Information and applications:
Resource Area of the Rockefeller Center or
<http://rockefeller.dartmouth.edu/students>

For more information, contact
Chris.Gex@Dartmouth.edu

Food for the Mind and Body

ROCKY STUDENT DISCUSSION GROUPS

POLI TALK

“Intelligent Design” in public schools, ethics in government surrounding Rep. Tom DeLay and Sen. Bill Frist, and stem cell research were just a few of the diverse areas of focused discussions at Poli TALK fall term. Author of *One Bullet Away* and former U.S. Marine Captain Nate Fick '99 joined students from Poli TALK, the Dickey Center, and the Rocky Leadership Fellows to discuss the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. The student-led discussions and opportunities to meet the Center's distinguished guests in small group settings will continue this term. Come check it out on Thursdays from 6:00–8:00 PM in Rocky's Morrison Commons. Poli TALK co-chairs for winter term are Christopher Leach '06 and Jon Groetzinger '07.

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP (WIL)

WIL is a place for Dartmouth undergraduates to meet amazing women and voice their opinions on a wide variety of topics related to leadership, public policy, politics, and gender issues. It also serves as a support network that is devoted to helping all Dartmouth women undergraduates reach their full potential. Fall term topics ranged from the impact of Hurricane Katrina on women in New Orleans to the constraints of gender roles on women leaders to bridging the gap between women of different backgrounds to sorority life on campus. Stop by WIL's weekly meetings on Tuesdays from 6:00–8:00 PM in Morrison Commons at Rockefeller. WIL co-chairs are Chelsea Jia '08 and Shermaine Jones '06.

DANIEL WEBSTER LEGAL SOCIETY (DWLS)

Monday evening from 7:00–8:00 PM in Rocky's Class of 1930 Room is the time and place that students with an interest in legal issues get together to discuss, debate, and analyze such issues as euthanasia, the legalization of marijuana, free speech regulation, and native American tribal affairs. It's also a time when DWLS occasionally invites professors or other distinguished visitors to talk about areas of the law or the legal profession. Visitors fall term included Visiting Professor on American Indian law David Wilkins and University of San Diego Law Professor Larry Alexander. Join DWLS for weekly dinner discussions. DWLS co-chairs are Jiamin Chen '06 and Michael Herman '07.

AGORA

A wide range of cultural, social, political, and moral topics are discussed at Friday night dinner-discussions on such topics as the examination of gender roles now and in the 1950s, the dispute over salary caps in American sports, and the rift between homosexuality and religion. Blitz your program ideas or suggested topics to AGORA. The student discussion group meets on Fridays at 6:00 PM in the Class of 1930 Room at Rocky. AGORA co-chairs are Julie Kim '06 and Michael Murov '07.

ATTENTION CLASS OF 2007

2006–2007 Rocky Leadership Fellows

Application Deadline: Thursday, April 6

- Explore and analyze different conceptual frameworks of leadership
- Apply concepts to experiential learning opportunities
- Discuss leadership issues with distinguished guests
- Participate in leadership skills workshops on facilitation, public speaking, and risk-taking
- Enhance personal learning through peer interaction.

For more information or an application, please connect to

<http://rockefeller.dartmouth.edu/students/leadership>

or contact Sarah.Morgan@Dartmouth.edu

DARTMOUTH-OXFORD EXCHANGE



Fall term Dartmouth students at Keble College, Oxford attended a black tie event. From left to right: Sirkanth Batchu '07, Vivienne Wei '07, Helen Parsons '06, and David Wolff '07

APPLY NOW FOR 2006–2007 FALL, WINTER, OR SPRING TERMS

As fully integrated members of the Oxford community, twelve economics or government majors take pre-approved political economy courses in the British tutorial system.

Application deadline: February 1

Applications available from
Off-Campus Programs
110 Wentworth Hall

For more information:

<http://rockefeller.dartmouth.edu/students/academics/oxford>

Multidisciplinary Conferences at Dartmouth

Academic conferences draw researchers from across the country and from around the globe to the Dartmouth campus to examine important public policy and social science questions. The Rockefeller Center is contributing support to four such multidisciplinary endeavors in the 2005-2006 academic year.

Thirty-nine academics and representatives from business and government came together at the Center in mid-October at a conference organized by Associate Professor of Economics **Annamaria Lusardi** (below). The group discussed methods and initiatives to increase the effectiveness of financial education programs by changing individual behavior toward saving.

Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies **Michael Dorsey** (below) and Assistant Professor of Native American Studies and Environmental Studies **Darren Ranco** are organizing a March 2006 conference for scientists, experts, and representatives from universities and environment, development, and human rights organizations to discuss new ways to examine market-based approaches for addressing climate change.

Dartmouth Assistant Professor of Environmental Studies **Karen Fisher-Vanden** and Brown University Assistant Professor of Geography **Ian Sue Wing** are organizing a spring term workshop to address important environmental issues that depend upon the rate and direction of technological changes in developed and developing countries.

The concept of modernity will be debated spring term at a conference organized by Professor of English and Edward Hyde Cox Professor in the Humanities **Patricia McKee**, Professor of Geography **Mona Domosh**, and Charles Collis Professor of History **Marysa Navarro**. Speakers will address the economic, cultural, and social changes that have transformed four urban locations into modern cities: Bombay, Buenos Aires, London, and New York.



Assistant Professor Michael Dorsey



Associate Professor Annamaria Lusardi

Faculty Research



Professor Misagh Parsa

Professor of Sociology Misagh Parsa will present his Rockefeller Center-funded research project findings on *Authoritarian Regimes and Alternative Paths to Democratization* on Thursday, February 2 in the Class of 1930 Room from 12:00 to 1:30 PM.

Other Dartmouth faculty and visiting scholars will also make research presentations at the Center's multidisciplinary research workshops. These sessions bring a variety of disciplinary perspectives to bear on a particular problem and foster a broader understanding of the theoretical and methodological issues involved in understanding it.

Winter term presentation schedules for the following groups are posted at <http://rockefeller.dartmouth.edu/faculty>

ENVIRONMENT & DEVELOPMENT
GENDER & (IM)MIGRATION
HEALTH POLICY
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS/
FOREIGN POLICY
LEGAL STUDIES
SOCIAL PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH
INTEREST GROUP

Economic Policy Analysis will return in the spring term.

2006-2007 FACULTY RESEARCH GRANTS & CONFERENCES

Call for Proposals

APPLICATION DEADLINE MONDAY • APRIL 3

4:00 PM • 101 ROCKEFELLER HALL

Applications and information online at:

<http://rockefeller.dartmouth.edu/faculty/resources>

For more information, contact: Wadeane.Kunz@Dartmouth.Edu



by Andrew Samwick, Director

Like many people safely removed from the events, I watched the images of the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and wondered how every layer of government could appear to have failed so resoundingly in serving the residents of New Orleans and the Gulf Coast. Many answers to the question of “What went wrong?” have suggested that an important part of the explanation is, in fact, that we have a layered government—our federalist system in which sovereignty is shared among the national, state, and local levels. As of this writing, a Google search for “Katrina federalism” generates over 250,000 results.

We should not take such charges lightly. Along with the separation of powers among the three branches of government and explicit protections for civil rights, federalism is one of the key elements of our constitutional republic. The presence of a multi-layered government is a strong impediment to abuses of freedom by any one of those layers. If breakdowns like the one we witnessed in September are symptomatic of federalist systems, then the greater centralization—less federalism—needed to protect the welfare of citizens would come at the high price of weaker protection of individual liberties.

I do not believe that federalism is an important explanation for the failures of government

in the preparation for and response to Hurricane Katrina. The underlying problem is a bloated government generally disdainful of both entrepreneurship and accountability at every level. In this case, the presence of multiple layers of government compounded the critical lack of communication and coordination that was also present in each separate layer of government.

In February 1962, then-Governor Nelson Rockefeller delivered the Godkin lectures at Harvard on “The Future of Federalism,” which were subsequently published in a book of the same name. He identified three pervasive attitudes that were damaging to the process of government in his era: political aloofness, in which the need to engage in active and aggressive political debate is evaded by a condescension and contempt for political life; an obsession with political labels, which substitute slogan for thought and the false label for the serious goal; and a timidity in the exercise of political leadership, particularly at the state level of government.

He could have been describing equally well the obstacles to effective government today, and until those obstacles are overcome, our society is susceptible to continued breakdown of government in the most critical times. The policy response to Hurricane Katrina should



not be less federalism, but better federalism—more reliance on elected rather than appointed officials to make decisions and implement policy and greater citizen participation in the political process. Elections and the people who stand for them matter. They bring with them the accountability and entrepreneurship that are required to provide the solutions to deal better with the challenges we face, both natural and man-made.

Center Director Andrew Samwick is Professor of Economics. He teaches courses in finance and conducts research on Social Security reform, saving, retirement, taxation, and compensation. He served as the chief economist on the staff of President Bush's Council of Economic Advisers in 2003-2004 and has testified three times before Congress.

Student Profile – LAUREN ALTSCHUH '07



Students who participate in Rockefeller Center programs are drawn from a wide variety of disciplines across campus. While many of these students tend to major in one of the social sciences, there are some students who have found a linkage between the natural sciences and the public policy focus of the Rockefeller Center. One such student is **Lauren Altschuh '07**. An engineering major from Westport, CT, Lauren has taken advantage of several

training, education, and funding programs offered by Rocky. She participated in the Civic Skills Training in September 2005 prior to undertaking a fall term public policy internship in Washington, DC as

the Center's John French '30 Memorial Intern. Working in the office of Senator Joseph Lieberman (D-CT), Lauren had the opportunity to work closely with Senate staff on an assessment of federal procurement policies relating to homeland security. Now a Public Policy Minor, Lauren will build on her experience in Washington, DC by conducting an independent study through *Public Policy 91* in the winter term. She will focus on the allocation of procurement contracts by the federal government in the wake of Hurricane Katrina.

Lauren has gained much from her Rocky experience: “It has helped me to become interested in a field that, at first, I didn't know much about, but have found it to be a very good fit and a complement to my engineering background.” The combination of an engineering major and a public policy minor, enhanced by other Rocky programs, will separate Lauren from the field in her pursuit of her future career plans. “Through Civic Skills Training and my internship, I have had the opportunity to develop communication and networking skills that will prove to be extremely beneficial no matter where my academic and career path takes me. I look forward to continuing to participate in Rocky programs through my last two years at Dartmouth and continuing to explore the topics in comparative policy.”

WINTER 2006 • Public Events

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18
4:30 PM, FILENE AUDITORIUM

What if Poor Mothers Ran the World? Some Lessons from Las Vegas

ANNELISE ORLECK

*Associate Professor of History and Chair of the
Jewish Studies Program, Dartmouth College*

A Rockefeller Center sponsored
Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration event

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26
4:30 PM, FILENE AUDITORIUM

Thurflow M. Gordon Lecture

The Politics of Judicial Selection and the Future of the Supreme Court

NAN ARON, ESQ.

President, Alliance for Justice (see front page)

Jointly sponsored with the Daniel Webster Legal
Society



*Associate Professor of History and Chair of
Jewish Studies Annelise Orleck is the author of
Common Sense and a Little Fire: Women and
Working-Class Politics in the U.S. (1995),
Soviet Jewish Americans (1999), and Storming
Caesar's Palace: How Black Mothers Fought
Their Own War on Poverty (2005). She is co-
editor of The Politics of Motherhood: Activist
Voices from Left to Right (1997).*

Dates, times, and locations are subject
to change, and other public programs
will be added to the winter term
schedule. For the most up-to-date
information, please connect to:
<http://rockefeller.dartmouth.edu/events>

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7
4:30 PM, I ROCKEFELLER

Congress to Campus: Panel Discussion

Reflections on Current Issues Facing the Congress

**DEMOCRAT, VIC FAZIO (D-CA) AND
REPUBLICAN, ROBERT WALKER (R-PA)**

Jointly sponsored with the Government Department