Faculty/Staff Achievements and Development

Student Intellectual Development

Four faculty members were recognized in the Undergraduate Book of Abstracts in 20 entries as faculty mentors to 11 students: Dr. Jennifer Leigh Disney (5), Dr. Scott Huffmon (1), Dr. Michael Lipscomb (8), Dr. Stephen Smith (6).

Five faculty members developed new courses during the 2013-14 academic year. They include:

- **Dr. Jennifer Leigh Disney** developed a new cross-listed, special topics course in PLSC and WMST entitled, “Women and Revolution” taught in Summer 2013.
- **Dr. Scott Huffmon** developed a new course with Ms. Michelle Wolf entitled, “Post-Soviet Democratization in Central Europe” taught in Spring 2014. This course contained a short-term study abroad component in May 2014 to Hungary which attracted 20 students.
- **Dr. Michael Lipscomb** worked with two faculty members in the Philosophy and Religious Studies Department, Dr. Will Kibligner and Dr. Greg Oakes, to develop a special team-taught honors course in Nietzsche which attracted 26 students.
- **Dr. Meredith Petersheim** developed an after-mid-semester version of her online PLSC 201 American Government course, which she taught in the fall and the spring semesters. This course offers an important opportunity for success for students across the campus community.
- **Dr. Chris Van Aller** developed a new 600-level graduate course for the MLA-PLCE Concentration entitled, “International Organizations.”

Five Political Science faculty members have undergone Blackboard training and use this medium as a means to post readings, lead discussions and disseminate information to students. Three faculty members have taught blended or entirely on-line courses as a way to serve students. The department is taking a nuanced and careful approach to offering and developing blended and online courses to ensure students have a high-quality educational experience.

Scholarly Activity

**Dr. Adolphus Belk, Jr. and Dr. Jennifer Leigh Disney** received promotion to Professor effective August 2014.

**Dr. John T.R. Holder** earned his Ph.D. in Public Policy from the University of North Carolina, Charlotte in December, 2013.

**Dr. Timothy Boylan** spent a sabbatical year focused on parliamentary failure and subsidiarity issues during and following the financial crisis in Cyprus in 2013 with co-researcher Dr. Antonis Ellinas at the University of Cyprus. In addition, he attended a conference on "Protecting Nature, Saving Creation: Ecological Conflicts, Religious Passions, and Political Quandaries" held at the Ca' Foscari University in Venice, Italy in May 2014.
Ms. Elizabeth Oswald-Sease, Program Assistant for the Departments of History and Political Science, continues her coursework in pursuit of the Master of Arts in History degree.

Ms. Allie Briggs, SBRL Operations Manager, attended the SAPOR Conference in Raleigh, NC.

**The following Political Science faculty produced at least one artifact of Priority One Scholarship during this reporting period which are described below: Adolphus Belk, Jennifer Disney, Scott Huffmon, and Stephen Smith.**

Dr. Adolphus Belk, Jr. published “Usurper-in-Chief? White Nationalism, the Tea Party Movement, and Barack Obama” in the edited volume, What Has This Got To Do With the Liberation of Black People: Essays in Honor of Ronald W. Walters, SUNY Albany Press, April 2014.


Dr. Jennifer Leigh Disney had “Militarism and Its Discontents: Neoliberalism, Repression, and Resistance in Twenty-First Century U.S.-Latin American Relations,” co-authored with Ginger Williams, accepted for publication with Social Justice.

Dr. Scott Huffmon had two co-authored publications accepted, including “Keeping Up with the Congressmen: Evaluating Constituents’ Awareness of Redistricting” in Social Science Quarterly and “When the Party is Over: Sentiment towards Same-Sex Divorce across Time and Place” in the edited volume, Handbook of Community Sentiment.

Dr. Stephen Smith co-edited, with Dr. Roslyn Mickelson and Dr. Amy Hawn Nelson of UNCC, the well-received book manuscript, Yesterday, Today, & Tomorrow: The Past, Present, and Future of School (De)Segregation in Charlotte, scheduled for publication by Harvard Education Press in 2015.

Dr. Stephen Smith produced five priority one artifacts connected to his work co-editing, with Dr. Roslyn Mickelson and Dr. Amy Hawn Nelson, Yesterday, Today, & Tomorrow: The Past, Present, and Future of School (De)Segregation in Charlotte, scheduled for publication by Harvard Education Press in 2015. Of the book’s 11 chapters, Dr. Smith authored one chapter and co-authored four additional chapters.

**The following Political Science faculty produced at least one artifact of Priority Two Scholarship during this reporting period which are described below: Adolphus Belk, Timothy Boylan, Jennifer Leigh Disney, Scott Huffmon, Michael Lipscomb, and Stephen Smith.**

Dr. Scott Huffmon and Ms. Allie Briggs had 1 co-authored conference presentation entitled, “Describing Ourselves: Identity Overlap and Fault Lines Regarding How Southerners Would Describe the South to Non-Southerners” and produced three well-received Winthrop Polls that brought an incredible amount of positive media attention to Winthrop University.


Dr. Michael Lipscomb was invited to update his article, “Jacques Derrida” for the new edition of the Blackwell Encyclopedia of Sociology.

Dr. Michael Lipscomb presented “Presentism, Dynamism, and the Temporal Imagination of Late Capitalist Environmental Politics,” at the annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association in Spring 2014. He also gave an invited presentation at the Alliance of Social, Political, Ethical, and Cultural Thought (ASPECT) Doctoral Program at Virginia Tech University on the same topic.

Dr. Michael Lipscomb and Dr. Jennifer Leigh Disney presented a paper/poster “Feminist Human Development: Ecotourism in Isla de Chíra, Costa Rica” at the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association.

Dr. Stephen Smith received an international invitation to present his paper, “The Political Economy of School Desegregation and Resegregation: A Case Study of Race, Class, and Power in a U.S. City” to a seminar at SciencePo’s Observatoire Sociologique du Changement, Paris, and, together with Dr. Mickelson, to present their work, “The Social Science Evidence on the Effects of Diversity in U.S. K-12 Schools: Implications for 21st Century International Migration” at the Segregation, Immigration, and Educational Inequality Conference in Ghent, Belgium, both in September 2013.

Professional Stewardship

Dr. Adolphus Belk, Jr. has been selected, along with his colleague Dr. Andra Gillespie (Emory University), to plan the 46th Annual Meeting of the National Conference of Black Political Scientists (NCOBPS) to be held in Atlanta, GA from March 17 through March 22, 2015.

Dr. Adolphus Belk, Jr. received his ten year service pin in April 2013.

Dr. Adolphus Belk, Jr. was nominated for the College of Arts and Sciences Advisor of the Year Award.
Dr. Adolphus Belk, Jr. received a Certificate of Appreciation from Clinton College Library and the Liberal Arts Department and an Image Award from the N.A.A.C.P., Winthrop University Chapter.

Dr. Adolphus Belk, Jr. also appeared on Carolina Business Review and delivered Black History Month lectures for Central Piedmont Community College and South Pointe High School.

Despite being on sabbatical, Dr. Timothy Boylan continued to engage in follow-up work to the 2013 MLA Self Study, including his participation in the visit of the external reviewers and the writing of the Action Report that responds to the site reviewer's "Program Review Report" of March, 2014. Dr. Boylan has also actively planned the 2014 Hornsby Lecture by Dr. Carol Tavris and other on-campus activities connecting her book, Mistakes Were Made, with fall sections of CRTW 201: Critical Reading, Thinking, and Writing.

Dr. Jennifer Leigh Disney became Chair of the Political Science Department in 2013-14.

Dr. Scott Huffmon was selected as one of twenty Liberty Fellows. The Liberty Fellowship is affiliated with The Aspen Institute/Aspen Global Leadership Network and is based on a peer nomination system of effective leaders with a demonstrable history of significant community engagement, success in their professions, and the ability to have state-level impact. This is a tremendous honor for Dr. Huffmon, the department, and the university.

Dr. Scott Huffmon gave two West Forum presentations and one lunch and learn presentation for the Presidential Inaugural Week celebration on the science of polling to highlight Winthrop University faculty.

Dr. Scott Huffmon conducted extensive media interviews for the Winthrop Poll.

Dr. Michael Lipscomb was elected to be a member of the award committee for the Best Environmental Political Theory paper presented at the 2014 Western Political Science Association (WPSA) annual meeting.

Dr. Michael Lipscomb was elected as Section Co-Chair for the Environmental Political Theory section of the 2015 Western Political Science Association (WPSA).

Dr. Chris Van Aller initiated a survey of high school MUN advisors this spring to try to understand their issues so that we might work better with them and advocate on their behalf to help bring their students to our MUN.

Dr. Stephen Smith was nominated for the College of Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research Mentor Award.
Political Science faculty members continue to fill important leadership positions in the University. Dr. Michael Lipscomb served as Chair of the Faculty Committee on University Priorities and Dr. Jennifer Leigh Disney served as Chair of the Faculty Committee on University Life.
Three members of the department head programs in the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies (Dr. Adolphus Belk, Jr. – African American Studies, Dr. Timothy Boylan – the Master of Liberal Arts Graduate Program, and Dr. Jennifer Leigh Disney – Women’s Studies and one other receives reassigned time for administrative responsibilities outside the department (Ms. Katarina Moyon – The West Forum and HMXP).

Members of the Political Science department remain active in their professional associations, including:

- **Dr. Jennifer Leigh Disney** served as the Program Chair for the Women and Politics Section of the Southern Political Science Association (SPSA) Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana from January 9-11, 2014.
- **Dr. Michael Lipscomb** served as President of the South Carolina Political Science Association.
- **Dr. Michael Lipscomb** chaired the Michael Harrington Book Award Committee for the New Political Science Section of the APSA.
- **Dr. John Holder** was elected to serve as President of the North Carolina Political Science Association.
- **Dr. John Holder** was elected to serve as Secretary of the South Carolina Political Science Association.
- **Dr. Jennifer Leigh Disney** has been selected, along with Dr. Jocelyn Boryczka of Fairfield University, to serve as the new co-editors of *New Political Science: A Journal of Politics and Culture*, effective August 2014.

All full time members of the faculty continue to be involved in University committees, governance, and personnel processes.