

December 2021 Newsletter

Passing of Alumnus Terry Childers

The Department announces the passing of our alum Terry Childers ('74) on December 8 in Abilene.

Childers had a distinguished work history in city management for several large municipalities including Amarillo. At the age of 34 he was hired as city manager in Oklahoma City, OK, becoming one of the nation's youngest city managers for a major city. He also served as assistant agency director for the Texas A&M Transportation Institute.

Terry Childers served on ACU's Board of Trustees from 1988-2008, and ACU awarded him an honorary doctorate in 2015. You can read more at <https://acu.today/2015/12/14/childers-presented-with-honorary-doctorate>

Dr. Mel Hailey said "Terry ws a giant among us. I am deeply saddened by the passing of this righteous man. He loved ACU and the Political Science Department; and as one of the first members of our Department's Board of Visitors, he took particular interest in the Jack Pope Fellows Program. His life was a reflection of the type Christian public servants the Pope Program strives to train."

After retiring to Abilene this summer with his wife Essie (ACU '75), Terry had already become more active with his alma mater and spoke at our Department Chapel in September. The Department expresses our condolences to Essie and the entire Childers family.



Our May Newsletter featured a story about the retirement of Dr. Mel Hailey. Here is a picture from the event.

On behalf of State Rep. Stan Lambert, POLS major Carter Snead presented a Texas flag that had flown over the State Capitol to Dr. Hailey on the occasion of his retirement reception, held September 10.



Campus News

The Abilene Police Department held a recruiting tour at ACU on Oct. 6.

The ACU Debate Team won 1st Place Overall Sweepstakes at the IPDA debate Hub City Swing at the University of Southern Mississippi the weekend of Sept. 25. CJ major Josh Danaher placed Second in Novice.

On the evening of Nov. 30 in the Brown Library Reading Commons, a live debate was held titled "Resolved: The Texas Heartbeat Act advances justice and the common good." The debate was presented by the Department in partnership with Brown Library and featured students from the Research Methods class. Dr. Benjamin Peterson was the moderator.

Department News

September 23-25, Dr. Ben Peterson participated in the third meeting of the Civitas Group, a private discussion group on political theology chaired by Dr. James Rogers of Texas A&M, hosted at the Theopolis Institute in Birmingham, AL. The group is dedicated to questions relevant to contemporary politics, especially the status of liberalism and a postliberal approach some Christian thinkers have promoted.

Ben Peterson went to Baylor Oct. 27-29 to present "Ecclesial Accountability Today: Membership and Two-Way Accountability in Congregational Polity" at the Symposium of Faith and Culture.

Congratulations to Department Coordinator Carmen Price for her induction into the Alpha Chi Honor Society! Carmen was invited to join Alpha Chi based on her excellent grades in graduate school—she is earning a masters in Social Work.

Candice Orbals accompanied Sierra Shoaff and Erin Hodgson to D.C. to present their Undergraduate Research Posters at ASMEA, Nov. 12-15.

Neal Coates and Chris Riley hosted the ACU Bar Association Reunion at Homecoming on Oct. 16.

Jack Pope Fellows

The Pope Fellows had a luncheon and interacted via Zoom with guest speaker Luis Figueroa, Legislative and Policy Director for "Every Texan."

Departmental Chapels Guest Speakers

Terry Childers, Jason Morris and Neal Coates were speakers at the departmental chapels this semester.

Congratulations December Graduates

Adriana Garza, James Kesner, Dylan Lopez, Josh Loughren, Jordan Paup, and Rachel Williams

Alumni News

Stewart McGregor ('18) has been named as Executive Director for the Kaufman Economic Development Corporation.

Kage Hendrix ('21) is in the Dallas Police Academy.

Pre-Law

A Faulkner Law School representative was on campus Oct. 12 meeting with students and had lunch with pre-law students.

Political Science Senior Wins ASMEA Research Poster Competition

POLS Senior Sierra Shoaff participated in and won the Undergraduate Poster Competition at the Association for the Study of the Middle East and Africa (ASMEA) Conference, held November 13-15 in Washington, D.C. Her research poster project was entitled "Shin Bet's Cell Phone Tracking: A Violation of Civil Liberties and the Israeli Basic Law."



Sierra originally prepared her poster for the January 2021 short course Politics of Israel, taught by Dr. Neal Coates. She then presented her poster at the 2021 ACU Undergraduate Research Festival, before presenting at ASMEA in November. This is the second straight year that an ACU student has won the ASMEA poster competition.

Congressional Internship Opportunities

Many ACU students work at their local district office or the Washington, D.C. office of their Congressman. Rep. Jodey Arrington (TX-19) is looking for an ACU intern for every semester and summer. If you or anyone you know (and of any major) are interested, please contact Rep. Arrington's either office or talk with Dr. Coates.

Major Scholarships, including Fulbright Scholarships

The ACU Office of Major Scholarships offers assistance for students interested in preparing (early!) for Truman, Marshall, Fulbright, Rhodes, etc. scholarships. See that Office or Dr. Coates for more information. The Department of POLS & CJ has recently had two students and one professor receive Fulbright's. Two of the activities you will want to consider beyond the B.A.-required language study is participation in a study abroad program and also taking the two courses at ACU to qualify for the TESOL teaching certificate.

International Rescue Committee, Abilene

The IRC in Abilene regularly accepts internship applications for the summer and fall semesters. An internship with the IRC provides professional experience with a renowned international non-profit. It also provides a multicultural experience from working with diverse clients and with the international staff in their office. IRC accepts interns from all majors and backgrounds to work in the case management, economic empowerment, immigration, and development departments. IRC requests a 12 hour per week commitment from each student. Apply several weeks prior to the semester to intern. Training is required.

Southern Regional Pi Sigma Alpha Student Research Conference

Students are invited to share their research with their peers by participating in the Southern Regional Pi Sigma Alpha Student Research Conference. PSA is the honor society for POLS students. The conference is held each February, and the deadline for submissions is early each January. Students exploring topics across political science are welcome to submit proposals in the many subfields that make up the discipline (American Politics, International Relations, Political Philosophy, Public Policy, etc.) Participants will receive detailed feedback on their papers through panel discussions. Conference participants pay no registration fee and are provided breakfast and lunch.

Boren Scholarships

Boren Scholarships, an initiative of the National Security Education Program, provides unique funding opportunities for U.S. undergraduate students to study less commonly taught languages in world regions critical to U.S. interests, and underrepresented in study abroad. These include Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Eurasia, Latin America, and the middle East. Western Europe, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand are excluded. Boren Scholars represent a vital pool of highly motivated individuals who wish to work in the federal national security arena. Boren Scholars commit to working in the federal government for at least one year after graduation. Award amounts (maximum scholarship) range from \$8,000 for a summer program to \$10,000 for a semester to \$20,000 for a 6-12 months. Summer-only programs must be eight weeks or more and are limited to science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) students. See <http://borenawards.org/scholarships/program-basics/boren-scholarship-basics>.



MSC SCONA is an annual collegiate conference at Texas A&M University in February that brings together delegates from across the nation and the world. MSC SCONA discusses a topic of national and global importance, allowing delegates to interact with academic scholars, professionals, and well-known public figures. Delegates participate in small group "roundtables" led by a subject matter expert "facilitator" and work together to create a policy paper. Prior to the conference, students may opt to participate in the **International Strategic Crisis Negotiation**

Exercise. The ISCNE is a diplomatic simulation produced by the U.S. Army War College, which Texas A&M University hosts. Student delegates are divided into seven teams—each representing a nation-state—and work with a USAWC Fellow, who serves as their mentor. Each of the delegations represent a nation or interested global actor at a simulated peace conference facilitated by the "United Nations." MSC SCONA and ISCNE will take place in February 2022. Registration will close in early February. Cost of the conference is \$100.

American Enterprise Institute Summer Honors Program

The AEI Summer Honors Program is a series of educational and professional development opportunities for quality undergraduate students. Students in the program have the chance to connect with the ideas, research, and network of AEI, one of America's pre-eminent think tanks, through seminars with AEI scholars and policy professionals, policy briefings with special guests, networking events, and site visits in Washington, D.C. Current undergraduates and recent graduates and international students are eligible to apply. Students participate in either a single one-week course or a multi-week opportunity at the start of the summer. This is a fully-funded program. Housing, meals on class days, stipends and travel vouchers are all provided. www.aei.org/internships

American Enterprise Institute Values & Capitalism Program

Applications are open for the next Values & Capitalism program sponsored by AEI. Through four week-long, expense-free courses, the honors program gives students a chance to immerse themselves in a particular area of study with leading scholars and policy practitioners, and also offers opportunities for students to sharpen professional skills through career coaching, site visits, and networking events. Learn more and apply by visiting www.valuesandcapitalism.com/2019-summer-honors-program. Faculty members can also nominate students by visiting the same web site and click on "Nominate a Student."

Application is due July 1. See www.valuesandcapitalism.com

U.S. Department of State

The U.S. Department of State Student Internship Program is an unpaid internship with the opportunity to work in U.S. embassies and consulates throughout the world, as well as in various bureaus located in Washington, D.C. and at Department offices around the United States. See

https://careers.state.gov/intern/student-internships/?source=govdelivery&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Experience the thrill and rewards of working in a student program at the U.S. Department of State. Whether you are an undergraduate or graduate student seeking a substantive internship supporting U.S. Foreign Policy, there is no limit as to how far these opportunities can take you. At the Department of State, you will have the opportunity to gain insight into U.S. Foreign Policy and Diplomacy, explore new career avenues, and acquire lifelong skills as you represent America to the world. Their two programs, (1) U.S. Department of State Student Internship Program (unpaid) and (2) Pathways Program (paid), enable students to obtain job experience in a foreign affairs environment. Begin by finding which program is right for you, or speaking with a Diplomat in Residence about student programs. <http://careers.state.gov/intern>

The Student Internship Program is open to U.S. citizen college students with 60 credits at start of the internship who will be continuing their studies immediately after the internship. There are opportunities to gain practical, professional experience in a foreign affairs environment and insight into the substance and daily operations of U.S. foreign policy. The internship is 8-14 weeks, full-time, in summer, spring, and fall, and is located in State Department offices in Washington and other U.S. cities and over 100 U.S. embassies and consulates abroad. Apply via usajobs.gov. Deadlines may vary, but traditionally are in September for the following summer, March 1 for fall, and July 1 for the spring of the next year. Interested students should sign up for email alerts using the "Keep Me Informed" feature on careers.stae.gov and clicking the "Student Programs" box on the menu. For more information, see careers.state.gov/intern/student-internships. Internships are unpaid, but housing may be provided at some overseas posts. For the U.S. Foreign Services Internship Program (USFSIP), U.S. citizen students currently enrolled in an undergraduate degree program may apply with a cumulative GPA of 3.20 or above, and must be rising juniors or seniors when they start the program (i.e., in their sophomore or junior year when applying). Selection is heavily based on evidence or financial need. This program is a paid two-summer international affairs experiential learning program. Apply via usajobs.gov. Application period usually every early in September or possibly late August. Sign up for an alert on usajobs.gov.

Critical Language Selection Program — U.S. State Department

The State Department invites students to apply for the Critical Language Scholarship Program next summer on a fully-funded study abroad program. The CLS Program is an intensive overseas language and cultural immersion program for Americans enrolled at U.S. colleges and universities. Students spend 8-10 weeks abroad studying one of 14 critical languages. CLS is part of a government initiative to expand the number of Americans studying and mastering foreign languages critical to national security and economic prosperity. Applications are available at www.clscholarship.org and are due November 15 each year.

The Fund for American Studies Washington, D.C., June and July
December 5 – Early Deadline (5% tuition discount)

**** Internship Placement – Courses for Credit – Furnished Housing****

Outstanding, committed students are invited to apply for TFAS, a summer program for internships and college courses in Washington, D.C. See <https://www.tfas.org>. The Fund for American Studies sponsors six institutes which prepare young people for leadership in their communities and the nation. The institutes are intense, combining lectures, coursework, internships, and site briefings at key institutions of national government. Each institute offers courses for academic credit. The most popular study program with ACU students has been the Engalitcheff Institute on Comparative Political and Economic Systems. ICPEs was established in 1970 and is intended for students interested in careers in government, public policy, and academia. It offers a thorough examination of the American political tradition and market economics through comparative study. Other programs are offered in: [International Affairs](#), [Public Policy & Economics](#), [Journalism & Communication](#), [Community Leadership & Service](#), [Business & Government Affairs](#), [Leadership & the American Presidency](#). The programs include an internship placement, courses for academic credit from George Mason University, furnished housing located close to Metro rail stations, monuments and museums in Washington, networking events, exclusive briefings, guest speakers and a mentor program. Scholarships are awarded based on need and merit with over 70% of students receiving full or partial funding. Please visit www.DCinternships.org. Questions may be directed to admissions@tfas.org or 202.986.0384.

Heritage Foundation, Washington, D.C.

The Heritage Foundation is recruiting 60 junior and senior conservatives for each spring semester in Washington, D.C. Paid internships in research, policy promotion, and more are offered. The program runs January to April, with opportunities to work alongside Heritage staff throughout the building and on a wide variety of policy issues. Visit www.heritage.org/internships. Applicants should apply by Oct. 1 by filling out the online application.

Internship Ideas

If you are looking for internship ideas, visit these organizations' homepages: FBI Counter Extremism Project, Freedom House, Interpol, Transparency International, Texas Right to Life, Amnesty International, International Justice Mission, and United Against Nuclear Iran.

Federal Courts Clerk Office Internship

Outstanding freshman POLS & CJ students are invited to contact Dr. Coates about summer internship in the Chief Clerk's Office of the Federal Courts for the Texas Northern District, in Dallas.

National Security-Related Internships in Washington, D.C.

<https://www.wm.edu/offices/dccenter/employment/internships/index.php>

Internships, Fellowships, and Other Work Experience Opportunities in the Federal Government

www.senate.gov/visiting/po.htm

Publications for Student Research

Several journals are dedicated to publications of student research. See Dr. Coates for more information.

Department of Homeland Security

DHS is looking for employees to face the complex threats and challenges facing the U.S. The agency is seeking hundreds of qualified individuals to fill critical positions in law enforcement—criminal investigators, deportation officers, Customs and Border Protection officers, Border Patrol agents, special agents, physical security specialists, police officers, emergency management specialists, and intelligence analysts. To learn more, visit www.dhs.gov/recruitment or www.dhs.gov/careers.

Middle East Forum

The Middle East Forum accepts On-location interns in the offices of the Middle East Forum in Philadelphia, and Distance interns. See <https://www.meforum.org/employment.php#internships>

Searching for Jobs?

See [USAJobs.gov](https://www.usajobs.gov) for Job Information!

University of North Texas Hatton Sumners Scholarship for Masters in Public Administration

The University of North Texas offers up to five scholarships worth \$31,000 to students entering the MPA program. Sumners Scholars receive a stipend of \$12,800 (\$800 per month) paid over 16 months, and receive \$18,200 toward graduate tuition and fees at UNT. They assist a faculty member as a research assistant for 10 hours per week for 12 months. These students also participate in seminars hosted by the Sumners Foundation with noted national leaders. Applicants should have at least a 3.00 GPA and excellent GRE scores; excellent letters of recommendation; and commitment to a career in public administration.

Review of completed applications begins April 1 of each year.

Law Enforcement Positions listed at Texas Municipal Police Association

www.tmpa.org/jobcenter

Texas Police Trainers maintains a list of job openings in Texas Cities

<http://texaspolice trainers.com/job-announcements>

Conservative & Libertarian Pre-Law Reading List—from Federalist Society

<https://fedsoc.org/commentary/publications/conservative-libertarian-pre-law-reading-list>

Portland Police Department, Portland, Oregon

<https://www.joinportlandpolice.com/#intro>



The City of Deer Park is accepting applications for Police Officer. Open Until Filled. Base Salary plus incentive pay for TCOLE Certification/Education Pay, Longevity Pay, or Shift Differential. Applications must be received at the Deer Park Police Department or at Deer Park City Hall. Applications at www.deerparktx.gov/egov/docs.

Deer Park, Texas, Police Department of Foreign Service Officers Reading List—from U.S. State Department

<https://careers.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2016/03/Suggested-Reading-List-Aug2013.pdf>