

Greetings from the AMERICAN WHIG-CLIOSOPHIC SOCIETY



Whig-Clio Reunions Reception

FRIDAY, MAY 28

Whig Hall, 12:30-3:00pm

One Whig Hall, Princeton, NJ 08544

April 2010



Princeton in the spring! A scene of contradictions: Waterfights in the Robertson fountain and JPs on the desks, Frisbee in the courtyards and theses in the carrels, formal dances by night and final exams by day.



Whig's renovated basement lounge

Not that we're complaining: nothing can change the fact that Princeton's still the best old place of all. And no one knows that better than you, which is why we cordially

invite you back to Nassau Hall—or Whig, to be exact.

Please join us for a **Reunions Reception** on Friday, May 28, from 12:30pm to 3:00pm in the newly renovated Whig Hall. Students will be on hand to answer questions, refreshments will be served, and we'd love to find out what you've been up to!

Best wishes and hoping to see you soon,
Alexandra Gecker '12

Director of Alumni Affairs
agecker@princeton.edu

A NOTE FROM INCOMING PRESIDENT CHARLIE METZGER '12

Dear Alumni,

I hope this newsletter finds you well. Whig-Clio has had an active semester so far, and we look forward to welcoming you back to campus at our annual Reunions Reception next month. We're particularly excited to show you around the newly renovated Whig Hall, complete with a cascading ceiling and full A/V capabilities in the Senate Chamber.



You'll be glad to know that Whig-Clio continues to serve as Princeton's home for extracurricular debate. In the past few months, we've hosted Dean of the College Nancy Malkiel for a debate on grade deflation, controversial physicist and global-warming denier William Happer for a debate on cap-and-trade, and human-rights activist Nonie Darwish for a discussion on Islam and Sharia Law. We're already in the process of lining up guests for our Fall

2010 speakers series, and we're looking forward to another semester of engaging events.

Our subsidiary organizations are off to a great start as well: the Debate Panel traveled to Turkey for the World Universities' Debating Championships in January, and the International Relations Council sent a strong delegation to the World Model UN Conference in Taiwan last month. Mock Trial's Moot Court Championship this month was a great success as well.

If you're interested in attending any events, just let me know. And as always, please feel free to contact me with questions, comments, or concerns about the society.

See you in May,
Charlie Metzger '12
Society President
cmetzger@princeton.edu

THE PRINCETON DEBATE PANEL

The Princeton Debate Panel has continued to enjoy great success as the year's progressed. In December, a group of debaters travelled to the 2010 World Debating Championships at Koç University in Turkey. One of Princeton's teams, Daniel Rauch '10 and Zayn Siddique '11, reached the quarterfinal round of competition, placing them among the top twenty teams in the world and qualifying them for the American Parliamentary Debating Association (APDA)'s National Championship. In January, the Panel also participated in the 2010 North American Debating Championships in Toronto.

Domestically, the Panel has had success both within APDA and on Princeton's campus. In February, the Panel hosted the 2010 Adlai E. Stevenson Memorial Debate tournament, one of APDA's largest tournaments. This tournament brought together over 200 debaters from across the country for two days of debating. Over Alumni Weekend in February, four members of the Panel participated in the annual 1876 Debate, sponsored by Whig-Clio. Matthew Arons '13, Samuel Norton '12, Rush Doshi '11, and Jack Breslauer '10 debated issues of feminism, with the team Norton-Doshi ultimately winning the debate. Beyond Fitz-Randolph Gate, the Panel's many successes within APDA over the winter have come from a combination of both veteran and freshman Novice Debaters. At the William and Mary's tournament in March, Daniel Lewis '13 finished top among

novice competitors, placing him among the top twenty novice debaters in the country. In late March, Princeton attended Boston University's tournament, and in a field of over 200 debaters, the Dan Rauch and Zayn Siddique won the tournament for a second year in a row, placing among the season's top ten teams. In the coming month, the Panel looks forward to continued success at tournaments at Amherst College and the National Championship at Swarthmore College.

The Panel also congratulates its recently elected officers, President Matt Butler '12, Financial Vice President Chelsea Ayres '12, and Administrative Vice President Jim Hao '12. Please feel free to contact Matt (jmbutler@princeton.edu) with any questions!



From left, PDP members Marty Topol, Anthony Loring, Dan May, Rush Doshi, Zayn Siddique, Mike Shih, Jason Anton, and Ben Weisman in Turkey.

THE PRINCETON TRENTON DEBATE PROGRAM

The PTDP, which connects Princeton's talented debate and Model UN participants with high-schoolers in Trenton, has enjoyed a successful second semester. Founder Rush Doshi '11, a Debate Panel member, selected Alex Gecker '12 and David Chen '13, also Panel members, to serve as his co-coordinators. The three are currently selecting new instructors and are planning the upcoming fall semester's programs. While the PTDP continues to run a debate program at Trenton Central High

School (West), the group is also starting comparable debate and Model UN programs on both West and Main Campuses.

The PTDP is grateful to the Trustees of Whig-Clio for their generous support of this program and to the Princeton students who have already volunteered their time and ability.

Please direct questions or comments to the PTDP (thePTDP@gmail.com).



TCHS West, site of the PTDP's first project.

MOCK TRIAL

Princeton Mock Trial is happy to report a very successful second semester. All four mock trial teams competed in Regional Tournaments and did extremely well. Two teams qualified to advance to Opening Round Championships in White Plains, New York, and Boston, Massachusetts, with one then qualifying for the National Competition in Memphis, Tennessee. At the end of April, they will square off with the 47 top mock trial teams in the country.

Mock Trial also ran a very successful Regional Tournament this year and will continue to host a Regional Tournament for



Mock Trial members in Boston. Back (l-r): Robert Marshall, Alex Peerman, Anthony Loring, Oren Samet. Front (l-r): Julie Khefets, Mary Marshall, Brittany Sanders.

the next two years. The tournament is a sign of prestige in the mock trial community and a major fundraiser for the organization. The tournament brought 26 teams from across the northeast to Princeton's campus to fight for eight spots to advance to the Opening Round Championship.

The tournament is a lot of fun and is also a chance for interested alumni to interact with students. Mock Trial is looking for law students, attorneys, and judges to help out at next year's Regional. If you think you might be interested, please contact team president Anthony Loring '11 (aloring@princeton.edu).

MODEL CONGRESS

Princeton Model Congress is entering its 28th year of helping high school students to explore the workings of their government. Founded in 1982, ours is the oldest American model congress. Our conference is located in Washington, D.C., and offers high school students a truly comprehensive experience. Participants may serve in Congress, sit on the bench as a Supreme Court Justice, counsel our Commander-in-Chief as a member of the Cabinet, run for President, or cover the federal government in print as a part of the Press Corps. Each year approximately 100 Princeton students make the trip to moderate 1,000 participants from all across the political spectrum and from all over the country for four days of debate, fostering civic engagement among American high school students.

Princeton Model Congress is the only one of its kind that takes place just down the street from Capitol Hill. Both high school and Princetonian participants have the opportunity to explore our nation's capital, and being in the heart of Washington DC enables us to attract keynote speakers from the highest levels of American government. Recent Princeton Model Congress keynote speakers have included political giants like Paul

Wolfowitz, Ralph Nader, and Justice Antonin Scalia.

At Princeton Model Congress, delegates research and write their own bills based on topics pertinent to their committees. Committee Sessions meet in groups of about twenty students and are moderated by Princeton University undergraduates according to Robert's Rules of Order. Unlike some model congresses, PMC does not require that delegates take on the roles of current representatives. We believe that although arguing for assigned views is a valuable rhetorical exercise, the debate generated among people espousing their true convictions is more passionate and well-informed. Bills that pass in Committee Sessions are brought before Full Sessions, where the Senate or House of Representatives convene. And bills that pass in Full Sessions are sent to the President of Princeton Model Congress to be signed or vetoed. At the end of the conference, the bills signed into law are announced. This year's officers are excited to continue the organization's proud history and are looking forward to PMC 2010!

Please feel free to contact Florina Yezril '12 (fyezril@princeton.edu) with any questions.

THE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COUNCIL

The International Relations Council seeks to spark a dialogue on campus about issues of international importance. On a weekly basis, this is accomplished through Sunday evening meetings featuring lectures from Princeton professors. Recent topics have included China's economic rise, the war in Afghanistan, and the political situation in Iran, all discussed by eyewitnesses, from Ambassadors to graduate students on the ground.

Additionally, the centerpiece of IRC's activity is Model United Nations. Each year, the council hosts two conferences: the Princeton Model United Nations Conference (PMUNC) for high school students and the Princeton Interactive Crisis Simulation (PICSim) for college students. Both boasted

delegates from all over the world, ranging from Austria to Venezuela to China to Australia. PMUNC featured a variety of creative committees,

including a theoretical simulation of the Third Ecumenical Council of the Vatican and two committees recreating the French and Prussian sides of the Franco-Prussian War.

This year's PICSim simulated the cabinets of Greater Central Asia, centered around Afghanistan, in addition to Taliban and USCENTCOM committees. IRC is also sending delegates of our own to conferences in Georgetown, Montreal, Chicago, and Taipei.



From left, IRC members Kyle Trombley, Kelly Roache, James Smits, Tiffania Willetts, and Ben Cogan in Tapei.

IRC is always interested in speakers with relevant experience or expertise in international relations for its Sunday meetings. Similarly, the organization has begun an Alumni Outreach program, and is anxious to establish contact with former mem-

bers. Potential speakers or alumni of the council are encouraged to contact president Kelly Roache '12 (modelun@Princeton.edu).

THE SENATE

The Whig-Clio Senate has held two debates this semester. The first of these was on the resolution "This house supports arming Public Safety." The Director of Public Safety and a representative of the Fraternal Order of Police graciously took the time to speak at the event. Also present were the President and Vice President of the Undergraduate Student Government, who were pleased to get a sense of student opinion on the issue. Clio, defending the position that Public Safety should be armed, won on the vote.

In April, the Senate hosted a debate on the resolution "This house would pass cap-and-trade." Physics Professor William Happer spoke against cap-and-trade, while Princeton graduate students

Rob Cooper and Aliza Wasserman spoke in favor of the legislation. Whig Party, supporting cap-and-trade, won an overwhelming majority of vote. The Senate is also planning a debate on vegetarianism featuring representatives of PETA and Princeton Professor Peter Singer, and prospective students visiting during one of the Preview weekends will be invited to weigh in on whether this house should oust Nancy Pelosi and the House Democrats.

If these topics interest you and you'd like to watch, attend, or speak at a Whig-Clio Senate debate, please don't hesitate to contact President of the Senate Dan May '11 (dbmay@princeton.edu)!

See you in May! The **Reunions Reception** will be held
Friday, May 28, 12³⁰-3⁰⁰pm in the newly renovated Whig Hall.

Questions? Feel free to contact Alexandra Gecker '12 (agecker@princeton.edu).