



UNITED STATES
SENATE YOUTH
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

December 10, 2004

Dear Senate Youth Program Alumni:

We are pleased to announce an exciting, new partnership between the United States Senate Youth Alumni Association and the Partnership for Public Service to promote government service by USSYAA alumni.

The Partnership for Public Service is a non-partisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to meeting the needs of government by inspiring a new generation to serve and transforming the way government works. The organization works with other groups and national leaders that believe a strong civil service is vitally important to the country. These partners include many members of the business community, hundreds of colleges and universities, other non-profit organizations, and government leaders. Among the esteemed members of the Partnership's Advisory Board is The Hon. Susan Collins, the United States Senator from Maine and, as you know, an alumna of the United States Senate Youth Program.

The Partnership has a number of programs and initiatives. It works directly with agencies to transform the government as a workplace. It supports legislative reform to remove outdated laws that discourage government service by the best and the brightest. It conducts research and policy analysis on challenges facing the federal workforce. And it offers education and outreach programs to persons of all ages interested in government service.

The Partnership's education and outreach programs attracted the interest of the USSYAA Board. In particular, the Partnership has collected information about and electronic links to a number of internship and fellowship programs in government service as well as opportunities for permanent employment with the federal government at their website www.calltoserve.org. Alumni may have particular interest in exploring federal executive branch internships, State Department internships, federal career-path internships, Smithsonian internships, the Presidential Management Fellows Program, the White House Internship Program, and many more. The Partnership even has its own program, the Partnership Fellows Program, which accepts applications from college students and graduates who share a commitment to public service and a desire to help revitalize the federal government.

Alumni who are currently in federal service may want to consider joining the Partnership's Speakers Bureau which links dynamic federal employees with organizations—often colleges and universities—that are looking for speakers on government service. Another program of interest to federal employees is the Partnership's Service to America Medals program that honors civil servants who have made important contributions to the country. Nominations are accepted each year during the winter months, and we hope the USSYAA community will help the Partnership honor unsung heroes in federal service by nominating deserving federal employees.

We invite you to review the vast information on the Partnership for Public Service website www.ourpublicservice.org and to pursue the many opportunities that you will there find. Our two organizations share a commitment to promoting the cause of good government, and USSYAA is committed to facilitating the career development of its members. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you see other opportunities for collaboration between our organizations. We look forward to sharing additional information about our partnership in the months ahead. We believe that this partnership between the Partnership for Public Service and the USSYAA will help accomplish both goals!

Sincerely,



Robert R. Middleton
President
USSYAA



Max Stier
President and CEO
Partnership for Public Service

United States Senate Youth Alumni Association (USSYAA)

P.O. Box 1798
Washington, DC 20013-1798
<http://www.ussyaa.org/>

December 10, 2004

Annual Letter 2004

A Special Message to Those Whose State and Year Do Not Appear on the Envelope

If the address block on the envelope in which you received this mailing does not have your USSYP state and year, then we're missing vital information about you. Please send a note via email to technology_director@ussyaa.org, or send a letter to the association's post office box in Washington, D.C. indicating your name (including name when you were a USSYP delegate if different), USSYP year, USSYP state, and your current address.

President's Message

Robert R. Middleton (DC 1966)

Let me extend the warmest of holiday greetings to all of the 4000 plus former delegates to the United States Senate Youth Program (USSYP) and members of the United States Senate Youth Alumni Association (USSYAA). It is indeed an honor to serve as the President of USSYAA and to have the chance to see, hear and read of the wonderful civic, charitable, cultural and political contributions which Senate Youth Alumni are making daily throughout the nation and the world. I am particularly inspired by the curiosity, enthusiasm and dedication of our newest alums and pleased to let you know that in March 2004, two young former delegates, a college freshman and a college junior, were elected as Secretary and Parliamentarian, respectively, to the USSYAA Board of Directors, and each has served actively in all Board matters. In fact, our Board Secretary is participating in a Semester Abroad program and, with the help of conference calling, has taken notes of our meetings from Grenada, Spain. It is this type of enthusiasm which all of us want to see spread throughout the USSYAA network.

And speaking of networks, I am pleased to announce a new partnership arrangement between USSYAA and Partnership for Public Service. By joining hands with this wonderful bi-partisan organization, current and future alums will have countless opportunities to participate and learn from others about the joys of public service, generally, and Federal Service, specifically. You will learn more about this organization and its expansive website elsewhere in our Holiday Newsletter. As a result of our new partnership, I foresee many increased opportunities for young alums to participate in Washington, D. C. internships, a request I have heard over the past five years. And while on the subject of new arrangements, this newsletter will also provide details concerning great news about USSYAA's first "Meeting on the Hill." For the first time, our Annual Dinner (February 25, 2005) and Annual Meeting (February 26, 2005) will be held on Capitol Hill. This year's Washington Weekend promises to be our most exciting and well attended gathering thus far in our young history.

Let me wish you and your families a pleasant and safe holiday season and trust that the coming year will bring both happy and exciting times. In this most complicated of worlds we live in, I still take comfort in the fact almost 40 years ago, I had the opportunity to participate in the United States Senate Youth Program as one of the two delegates from the District of Columbia. I was in awe in 1966, and as we move into 2005, I remain in awe. As keepers of the torch left to us by the late Mrs. Rosalie Wynn Hearst (Mom Hearst), and her recently departed personal assistant and longtime USSYAA supporter, Mrs. Gladys S. Hundley, we owe it to all who come behind us to keep the excitement and memories of Washington Week vivid. Join us in Washington the last part of February, 2005 for a chance to rekindle old friendships, make new ones, become active with USSYAA, and re-live the joys of Washington Week during "your" year.

Mom's Generosity Continues

Robert R. Middleton (DC 1966) and David Zavadsky (WI 1990)

The late Rosalie “Mom” Hearst was extremely proud of the United States Senate Youth Program, and it was very important to her that, as adults, we would continue to maintain the positive relationships that were built during Washington Week. Through Mom Hearst’s continuing generosity, the United States Senate Youth Alumni Association will soon receive a bequest from her estate.

Mom was always proud of her “kids,” who are now you, the members of USSYAA. In keeping with her passion, the Board of Directors will use this bequest to further our mission—and hers—of helping to provide financial assistance for the professional educational needs of deserving program alumni, and to maintain the avenues of communication among program alumni.

One way that you can share in the spirit that Mom Hearst brought to the Alumni Association is to consider making a donation either to the scholarship fund that bears her name, or to the general operating budget of the Association. Each year, Mom helped many program alumni with small grants-in-aid, and mailed hundreds of letters, at her own expense, to program alumni. We at the USSYAA are continuing those traditions and would be pleased to accept your contribution. Additional information about the scholarship fund is located elsewhere in this newsletter.

Please join us Friday, February 25th, 2005, in Washington, D.C. as we remember Mom Hearst and many of those, past and present, who helped shape the creation and direction of our organization.

The USSYAA is Moving to Capitol Hill!

Randy Brantley (NC 1981)

Thanks to the concerted efforts of three distinguished public servants, USSYAA is making plans to move the February 2005 annual dinner and general membership meeting to Capitol Hill! If you have never attended Alumni Weekend, this definitely is the year to make a pilgrimage back to where that incredible week took place during your high school years. United States Senator Susan Collins of Maine (ME 1971), and her Chief of Staff Steve Abbott (ME 1981)—both distinguished program alumni—have requested space in the United States Capitol Building for our Friday, February 25, cocktail reception and dinner. USSYAA President Robert R. Middleton (DC 1966) has extended an invitation to Senator Collins to attend the dinner and participate in a “fireside chat” about her public service career. Bob is awaiting Senator Collins’ reply. In addition, Senator Collins is attempting to arrange use of her Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs chamber for USSYAA’s Saturday, February 26, general membership meeting. James T. Molloy, former doorkeeper of the U.S. House of Representatives, and longtime friend of USSYAA, has worked closely with Senator Collins’ office to schedule space on Capitol Hill.

Because Senator Collins’ office will not obtain official reservation approval until the end of December, alumni who wish to participate in this year’s events are asked to complete the enclosed reservation form to indicate interest. Final details, including exact location, Friday dinner cost, and times will be distributed via email or phone in early January. Please join your fellow Senate Youth Program alumni for what is shaping up to be one of the most exciting Alumni Weekends ever!

Frehse and Almon Receive 2004 Alumni Service Awards

Norman Fortenberry (LA 1979)

For the past five years, USSYAA has presented an annual service award to individuals who have made significant contributions to the U.S. Senate Youth Program or the Alumni Association. On February 28, 2004, USSYAA President Robert Middleton (DC 1966) presented the award to Robert M. Frehse, Jr., Executive Director of the William Randolph Hearst Foundations, and Rita Almon, Program Director of the United States Senate Youth Program of the William Randolph Hearst Foundations. Middleton recognized both individuals for their many years of service and dedication to the United States Senate Youth Program. The presentation took place at the Mayflower Hotel before foundation officials, program alumni, and military escorts. The award consists of an engraved plaque, which bears a color likeness of the United States flag.

Prior to joining the Hearst Foundations, Frehse spent more than 20 years with Citibank in its overseas divisions. Frehse currently serves as a director of the Council of Independent Colleges and as a Trustee and member of the Executive

Committee of the Interchurch Center. He is a member of the Board of Visitors of Wake Forest University and a Fellow of The Foreign Policy Association of New York. Almon's previous positions were with the University of California at Los Angeles, the Haversham Art Gallery of London, and Stanford University School of Law. Almon serves as a volunteer officer and board member of the National Center for Equine Facilitated Therapy.

Past recipients of USSYAA's service award include Mrs. George Randolph Hearst, Sr.; Mrs. Gladys Hundley; Dr. Roy McKeown; Millicent Hearst Boudjakdji; Mr. James T. Molloy; and Mr. Thomas Eastham.

Treasurer's Report

John Blakley (MI 1976)

As of November 1, 2004, USSYAA had revenues of \$73,262 and expenses of \$37,896 providing a balance of \$35,366. These figures are cumulative since the inception of the organization and are not annualized.

New Faces on the USSYAA Board

David Zavadsky (WI 1990)

At the 2004 annual membership meeting, held at Williams & Connolly in Washington, D.C., the USSYAA Board of Directors added several new faces and said goodbye to several old friends. Joining us on the Board for the 2004–2005 cycle are Casey Cashdollar (DE 2003) as Secretary, Chad Robinson (DE 2001) as Parliamentarian, Natalie Voris (MO 1996) as Eastern Regional Director, and Ron Jacobs (OH 1993) as Northern Regional Director. Leaving the Board are Christine Drager Kurth (AK 1988), Scott Shapiro (WA 1988), Shawn Farrell (MA 1996), and Craig Hulvey (ID 1968).

The USSYAA Board of Directors for 2004–2005 is...

President	Robert R. Middleton	DC 1966	Silver Spring, MD
President-Elect	Randy L. Brantley	NC 1981	Concord, NC
Vice-President	Norman L. Fortenberry	LA 1979	Silver Spring, MD
Treasurer	John Selmon Blakley	MI 1976	Scarsdale, NY
Secretary	Casey Cashdollar	DE 2003	Lewes, DE
Parliamentarian	Chad Robinson	DE 2001	Greenwood, DE
Liaison Officer	Michael S. Sundermeyer	MO 1969	Washington, DC
Alumni Programs Director	Connie Britner	MI 1966	Jackson, MI
Technology Director	Dan Brown	MS 1987	Provincetown, MA
Communications Director	David Zavadsky	WI 1990	Madison, WI
Central Regional Director	Brandon Lucas	CA 1988	Hopewell Junction, NY
Eastern Regional Director	Erin Butler	FL 1997	Williamsburg, VA
Northern Regional Director	Ron Jacobs	OH 1993	Washington, DC
Southern Regional Director	Natalie Voris	MO 1996	Arlington, VA
Western Regional Director	Mehul Patel	NJ 1994	Manasquan, NJ

Parliamentarian's Note

Chad Robinson (DE 2001)

Holiday greetings to our over 4000 alumni across the country and around the world. I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Chad Robinson, and I attended the greatest week of my life ("Washington Week") in 2001. I am currently a senior at Wesley College in Dover, DE and plan to graduate in May 2005.

My reason for writing this article this year is to encourage the involvement of our younger alumni. I have been involved with the Association since my "Washington Week" and it has been very encouraging. The future of our country and our alumni association lies in the involvement of our younger alumni. The future is vast for where our alumni can go, and I encourage everyone to realize how many Senate Youth Alumni there are in the world. Our alumni are involved in every aspect of our society, and some day soon one will become President of the United States. The future is limitless and lies in the involvement of our most recent classes.

During this holiday season, I encourage all of you to become involved. Please attend our annual meeting in February, or if you cannot attend send a donation to advance our mission. Our future is in our hands, and we can move this association forward with our involvement. As one of the two youngest alumni on the Board, I know the joy it has given me to be involved and hope all alumni will find it in their hearts to do the same.

Mentoring Project Adds College Table

Michael Sundermeyer (MO 1969)

On the afternoon of Saturday, February 28, alumni participated in Hospitality Day at the 42nd U.S. Senate Youth Program held at the Mayflower. Alumni hosted Mentoring Tables that discussed educational options and career paths for government service, law, business, journalism, teaching, military service, and medicine and public health.

Alumni are invited to participate in the Mentoring Project for the 2005 Program. Arrival day is February 26, 2005. We'll be organizing interest areas in January. This year, we are adding a new table—College—staffed by undergraduate alumni. The table will address the transition from high school to college and how to get the most out of the college experience. A committee for each mentoring area will develop literature and organize the schedule for the informal group discussions. If you would like to help plan and present the Mentoring Project for the 2005 delegates, please contact any USSYAA board member or e-mail msundermeyer@wc.com.

USSYAA Mourns Loss of Two Founders

David Zavadsky (WI 1990)

We are deeply grieved to report the passing of two persons instrumental in the founding of the United States Senate Youth Alumni Association: Mrs. Gladys Hundley, USSYAA Special Advisor and former business manager to Mrs. Rosalie “Mom” Hearst; and Mr. Craig Hulvey, founding USSYAA Parliamentarian.

Mr. Hulvey passed away on Thursday, August 6, 2004, in Loma Linda, California, of heart failure. Mr. Hulvey’s services were held in Palm Springs on August 21.

Mrs. Hundley passed away on Saturday, August 21, 2004, in Hemet, California, after undergoing a significant surgical procedure. A memorial service was held on Saturday, August 28, 2004 in Hemet, California.

Craig served as the USSYAA’s Parliamentarian until 2004. Gladys continued working on USSYAA business until her death, and was always a witty, outgoing participant in all of our board meetings. Her participation and guidance will be sorely missed.

Nero Selected for Alumni Scholarship

Connie Britner (MI 1966)

Members of the alumni scholarship committee have carefully considered the applicants’ documents and have selected **Leah J. Nero (VT 1998)** as the recipient of the 2004 Rosalie Wynn and George Randolph Hearst, Sr., Alumni Scholarship.

Ms. Nero is a political science/Spanish graduate of Union College at Schenectady, New York. She is currently completing pre-requisite course work at Salem State College in Salem, Massachusetts.

At Boston Medical Center, Boston’s only public hospital, Ms. Nero worked on a NIH-funded clinical study examining HIV disease progression.

Ms. Nero’s personal statement included with her application refers to beginning full time Master’s FNP (Family Nurse Practitioner) study at Yale University School of Nursing. To quote Ms. Nero: “By becoming a Family Nurse Practitioner and addressing clinical issues for underserved populations, I will provide critical service for community health needs in a manner that values understanding families within their distinct contexts.”

“I appreciate that NPs are empowered with an extensive educational background to complement physician care while operating under a separate license. Unlike the strictly medical model’s focus on *curing*, nursing distinctly suits me by

offering service and scholarship while privileging the pursuit of *caring*.” Ms. Nero is dedicated to providing equal access to health care for children and adults. She is eager to serve in a community health center in an underserved area in rural Vermont.

Our committee believes Ms. Nero embodies the vision Mom Hearst created for us and we are proud to recognize this alum’s achievements and commitments.

USSYAA Seeks Donations to and Applications for the Rosalie Wynn and George Randolph Hearst Sr. Scholarship Fund

This would be a great time for alumni to actively consider making donations to the *Rosalie Wynn and George Randolph Hearst, Sr. Scholarship Fund*. The scholarship fund is a project of USSYAA and is neither affiliated with nor endorsed by The William Randolph Hearst Foundations. Tax-deductible contributions may be made by check (please indicate “Scholarship Fund” on the memo line) sent to USSYAA, P.O. Box 1798, Washington, DC 20013-1798. Contributors are encouraged to explore whether matching contributions from their employers are possible.

Grants of up to \$500 are made available to deserving alumni to defray the costs of graduate and professional programs. Priority is given to those alumni pursuing careers in which earnings may not adequately reflect the individual’s level of commitment and service to society. The application deadline for the next round of scholarships is September 15, 2005.

Technology Director’s Report

Dan Brown (MS 1987)

Alumni can update their contact information online. Just go to the USSYAA Web site at <http://www.ussyaa.org> and click on the Directory link on the left side of the page. To gain access, you’ll need to enter your last name and delegate state/year. Simply search for your own record using any combination of search criteria. If anything needs to be updated, just click on the link at the bottom of the page. If you are unable to access your information, that simply means you’re not in the database. Please e-mail technology_director@ussyaa.org with your information.

This issue of the annual letter is being distributed electronically as well in print. If you did not receive it via email, please check the email address we have on file for you!

ALUMNI NEWS

CLASS OF 1966

After living 50 years in Washington, D.C., **Robert R. Middleton (DC 1966; President, USSYAA)** and his wife moved six miles in April 2000 to Downtown Silver Spring, Maryland. Once a suburban leader, Silver Spring had lost a lot of its luster over the past 15 years. Now home to the American Film Institute's Silver Theater, world headquarters for Discovery Communications and TV One, and in the midst of a billion dollar make-over, Downtown Silver Spring is a success. In June 2004, Bob was elected Chairman of the Silver Spring Urban District Advisory Board, a group of community and business leaders who serve as the eyes and ears of Montgomery County for the revitalization and betterment of Downtown Silver Spring. Silver Spring has been recognized by trade associations as one of the most vibrant and well managed Downtown areas in the nation. Bob encourages all alums, young and older, to take the opportunity to visit.

CLASS OF 1977

Alan Aldinger (OH 1977) reports that the USSYP remains one of the greatest memories of his youth. He has spent his professional life in news media relations, mostly at two private colleges in Ohio. For the past three and a half years, he has been at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center, one of the top clinical and academic medical centers in the country.

CLASS OF 1978

After a nearly 20 year career in construction management, **Todd Henry (WA 1978)** received his J.D. from Seattle University, and is now practicing construction law with the Seattle firm of Oles Morrison Rinker & Baker. Todd's practice focuses on the representation of parties involved in construction-related disputes. Todd is a frequent author of his firm's construction law column in the Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce, and is a contributing author to four books on construction law: Federal Government Construction Contracts (ABA Publishing, 2003), and the 2003-2005 editions of the Wiley Construction Law Update (Aspen Publishing). Todd resides in Shoreline, Washington with his two children, Melissa and John.

CLASS OF 1981

Randy Brantley (NC 1981; President-Elect, USSYAA) recently joined Queens University of Charlotte, North Carolina, as associate vice president for development. Queens is a private, Presbyterian school located near the city's center. Randy is particularly proud of the fact that, each year, Queens awards Hearst Foundation scholarships to deserving students. Outside of the office, Randy is an active member of St. John's Baptist Church, where he serves on the diaconate. He also serves on the board of Mecklenburg Open Door, a mental health agency that provides residential and job training services to clients.

CLASS OF 1985

Steven C. Rice (WY 1985) continues to serve as a Foreign Service officer with the U.S. Department of State. Along with his wife, Rita, and two-year-old daughter Maria, he is currently living in Tunisia, where he is assigned to the Arabic language field school as a full-time student of Arabic. Steve expects to be posted to Algeria next summer as the head of the political-economic section at the U.S. Embassy in Algiers.

CLASS OF 1987

Glenn Aga (MN 1987) and wife Tina welcomed their first daughter, Alexandra Grace, into the world March 3, 2004. This was a year of changes, too. Glenn left his position as a Director at Oracle Corp to become President of IC Associates, LLC, a technology consulting firm with clients in the US intelligence and military communities. Glenn was also co-author of "Defeating the Jihadists: A Blueprint for Action," published Nov 2004 by the Century Foundation in New York. This 200 page book assesses the nation's successes and failures on homeland security and calls for a stronger, more effective strategy for dealing with jihadist terrorists, including al Qaeda. Glenn, Tina and Alexandra make their home in Laguna Niguel, CA.

CLASS OF 1989

Selene Ko (DE 1989) and **Jonathan Robertson (NC 1989)** first reconnected when they both turned up at Harvard Law School in 1994. Selene eventually found her way to Washington, D.C., where she works for the U.S. Department of State Office of the Legal Adviser. Jonathan moved to Miami where he lives with his wife and son, and is a partner in a venture capital fund. Jonathan and Selene have maintained their Senate Youth ties over the years, most recently with Jonathan and his wife hosting a wedding brunch for Selene and her new husband this past April.

CLASS OF 1990

David Zavatsky (WI 1990; Communications Director, USSYAA) manages to keep active in both his personal and professional life. At the end of 2003, he was elected President of the Prairie Hills Homeowners' Association, a condominium located in southwest Madison, Wisconsin. In March, he was elected Communications Director of the US Senate Youth Alumni Association after serving two years as the Northern Regional Director of the organization. In August, he celebrated his ten-year anniversary at Econoprint, a printing company located in the Madison area where he works as Information Systems Manager. In his free time, David enjoys hiking in the beautiful parks located throughout Wisconsin, and in 2004 he vacationed in Washington, D.C.; south Florida; Las Vegas; and Northern California.

CLASS OF 1993

Michael Bowling (OK 1993) graduated from the University of Michigan Law School in May 2003. He now works for the law firm of Crowe & Dunlevy, P.C., in Oklahoma City. Michael also has great news on the personal front: he is marrying Ms. Ursula Moore on March 12, 2005.

CLASS OF 1995

Michael Lawlor (MT 1995) is currently living in Alexandria, VA, with his wife, Amy, and two boys, Thomas and James. Michael is a tax attorney, working in Washington, DC, as a law clerk to the Hon. Herbert L. Chabot of the United States Tax Court. At the conclusion of his clerkship in 2006, he intends to return to Montana to practice law.

CLASS OF 1996

Craig Belanger (ME 1996) has had a very busy year. He was engaged last Christmas to Abigail Lawrence, whom he met while they were both Hansard Scholars at the LSE during their junior year in college. Craig's nuptials are planned for this January in Mexico. He was recently promoted to the position of Senior Consultant at The Beacon Group, a small strategy consulting firm based in Portsmouth, NH, that assists Fortune 500 clients in developing the strategies and tactics to win in their markets. Craig was also asked by the Maine Republican Party to be a candidate for Representative to the State Legislature for the Munjoy Hill and Downtown of Portland.

Talhia Tuck (DC 1996) has pursued a career in television news. After two years of producing for NBC News in New York and Washington, D.C., she is now a local TV reporter for CBS affiliate WINK-TV in Fort Myers and Naples, Florida.

CLASS OF 1997

After seven years in several different states and countries, **Elizabeth Pederson** and **Chris Walker**, the **Nevada 1997** Delegates, have ended up at the same place again: this time Stanford Law School. Between the US Senate Youth Program and Stanford, Elizabeth did her MPA at the Ford School and served in the Peace Corps in Costa Rica, while Chris served a religious mission in Argentina while concurrently completing an MPP at the Kennedy School of Government. Elizabeth and Chris now work together on the Stanford Law and Policy Review. They would love to hear from the 1997 crew: Elizabeth can be reached at pederson@stanford.edu, and Chris is at christopher.walker@stanford.edu.

CLASS OF 1998

Dave Holman (MT 1998) graduated from Providence College in May 2003 with a BA in History, and received his MA in Social Sciences/American History at the University of Chicago in August 2004. He is a Witherspoon Fellow at the Family Research Council until January, at which time he is relocating to the D.C. area.

Nick Tzitzon (MA 1998) recently spent two years working for Mitt Romney, initially as a staffer on his campaign for Governor of Massachusetts then as Director of Gubernatorial Appointments in his administration. Nick now lives in Washington and works with Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson as Deputy Director of Intergovernmental Affairs.

CLASS OF 1999

Abhishek Mathur (NY 1999) is a third year student at NYU School of Law. Upon graduation, he will join a boutique telecommunications law firm right outside of NYC. Abhishek would love to hear from fellow alumni from 1998 or in the New York City area at abhi@nyu.edu.

Jake Rodenbiker (ND 1999) is currently a law student at the University of Minnesota. Last summer, he clerked with the U.S. Attorney for North Dakota, and currently he is immersed in a search for government opportunities both for the coming summer and beyond graduation. Meanwhile, Jake helps direct his school's chapter of The Federalist Society, which has been his means of keeping abreast with the important issues of contemporary legal and political thought. Jake expects to graduate in May 2006 with his J.D., and would welcome and appreciate sage advice from veteran and rookie lawyers alike, especially those in non-legal careers. Jake may be reached at rode0081@umn.edu.

CLASS OF 2000

Samuel Hamilton (OH 2000) graduated *summa cum laude* with a B.A. in History from Miami University (OH) in August and is currently working as an aide to State Representative Tom Patton in the Ohio House of Representatives. Sam married Tasha Sotomayor of Portland, OR on July 31, 2004.

Crystal Koen Szymanski (OK 2000) is halfway through her residency year as a middle school English teacher at Garber Junior High in Garber, OK. Given that her major was social studies, she considers being an English teacher a real challenge, but enjoys working with the kids. She is currently working on her master's degree in secondary education with an emphasis in social studies at Northwestern Oklahoma State University. She hopes to graduate in December 2005.

CLASS OF 2001

Elizabeth Pickett (WY 2001) is currently living in Washington, D.C., working for U.S. Senator Mike Enzi, R-WY, as his assistant press secretary. She is taking night classes to finish her political science degree and will graduate in December 2004 with her bachelor's degree.

Chad Robinson (DE 2001; Parliamentarian, USSYAA) is currently in his senior year at Wesley College in Dover, Delaware, where he serves as Vice-President of Student Government and plans to graduate in May with a BA in Political Science. During the 2004 election cycle, he worked as the Assistant Campaign Manager on a State Representative campaign in Delaware. He remains involved in his church where he serves as Lay Leader and Youth Director. Chad looks forward to seeing everyone again at Arrival Day in February!

Anna Sanders (UT 2001) is currently a junior in Political Science at Brigham Young University and is in the presidency of the most active chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society. She is also a director of a human rights at a Model United Nations conference in Salt Lake City and looks forward to interning at Scottish Parliament in the near future.

CLASS OF 2002

Tom Filopoulos (NC 2002) is currently a junior at UNC Chapel Hill. Tom recently won a scholarship to study in China for the spring semester 2005 with a group of 15 other students. They will be working with the 2008 Olympic Committee and the Mayor of Beijing to learn about the interaction of English-speaking and Chinese media, and will assist in planning the Chinese media message for the games. Tom hopes to use the trip as a way to learn about a future career in foreign policy or international law.

Taylor Heyen (MN 2002) is currently a junior at Boston College, majoring in History with pre-law concentration, and an undecided minor—either in American Studies or Women's Studies. Taylor spent a month in France last summer as part of her Presidential Scholarship at BC, and then spent another month backpacking with friends through Switzerland, Italy, Austria, and Germany. After one month back at home in Minnesota, she traveled abroad again to study at the King's College in London for the fall semester. She will finally be “home” at Boston College next semester, and then will intern for her congressman in Washington DC for the summer.

Gabriel Justus (GA 2002) is now a junior philosophy major at Furman University. After a very successful trip to Bonn, Germany for a semester last year, he is heading back overseas to the Baltic Sea region this winter. He plans to spend a year in Germany after graduation and then possibly study German at grad school. Gabriel would love to hear from any USSYAA members who are in Germany or who have lived in Germany. He can be contacted at gabriel.justus@furman.edu.

David Lieberman (NY 2002) is currently in his third year at Yale studying Cognitive Science and Education. David reports that “I play with monkeys and then apply what I learn to teaching children.” Recent field research sites have included tropical Puerto Rican islands and public schools in the New Haven district. David is in the process of becoming certified to teach science at the secondary level, and looks forward to teaching back home in New York upon graduation.

Danielle Newell (OR 2002) is currently attending Western Oregon University. She will be graduating next fall with a speech communications major and a business minor, and hopes to attend graduate school. She is currently the Director of Public Relations for Associated Students of Western Oregon.

Erica Schlaikjer (MD 2002) is a sophomore at the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University in Evanston, IL, double-majoring in journalism and international studies. Currently, she is a staff member on the Medill Editorial Board for *Abroad View Magazine*. She is also the co-site leader of an after-school volunteer program for elementary school children. Erica hopes to study abroad in China next fall.

Christine Thomas (MN 2002) is currently a junior at Yale, majoring in Biochemistry and Biophysics. While she loves the East Coast, her home will always be Minnesota. Christine spent part of her summer in Washington, D.C. and reports that “I felt very nostalgic; I still think about my USSYP trip often.”

CLASS OF 2003

Casey Cashdollar (DE 2003; Secretary, USSYAA) is a sophomore at the University of Delaware, with majors in International Relations and Three Languages (Spanish, Russian, and Chinese). For the first semester of her sophomore year, she is studying abroad in Granada, Spain, at the Universidad de Granada, Centro de Lenguas Modernas. While studying in Spain, Casey has had the opportunity to travel to several countries in Europe. Though her study abroad program ends in December, her travels will not end as she will be spending the holiday season in Sydney, Australia.

Aaron Connelly (FL 2003) is enjoying his second year at George Washington, studying international politics and East Asia. Last May he had the pleasure of turning over his role as Student Association Vice President for Academic Affairs to another USSYP Scholar, Ross Mankuta (NY 2002). Over the summer he stayed in Washington to take intensive Japanese courses, and is planning on finally taking a break by spending the winter holidays with a friend in Paris, where he would love to meet up with any other USSYP alumni in town.

William Godwin (TN 2003) is a sophomore at Georgetown University majoring in Sociology and African American Studies. He is a resident assistant in an upperclassmen residence hall and is Second Vice-President of the Georgetown Chapter of the NAACP. William is working in the Office of Student Financial Services on a grant proposal dealing with equal access and opportunity in higher education for D.C. high school students. Next year, he plans to study sociology and social policy at the London School of Economics.

Ray Pacia (RI 2003) is currently a sophomore at Yale University majoring in history, and also possibly Italian Studies. He has become interested in journalism and spends most of his free time covering the Yale administration and higher education issues for the *Yale Daily News*. Ray spent last summer in Washington, D.C. interning for Senator Jack Reed, whom he met during Washington Week. While in D.C., he caught up with **Aaron Connelly (FL 2003)** and **Bill Godwin (TN 2003)**, both of whom were in his original escort group.

From the Editor's Desk

David Zavadsky (WI 1990)

Taking the reins as Communications Director of the USSYAA puts me in rather awesome company. Former Communications Directors have included Norman Fortenberry and Randy Brantley, but the originator of the holiday letter was none other than Mom Hearst herself. I can only hope she's smiling at the work I'm doing.

When I was selected in 1990 to be a Wisconsin delegate to the Senate Youth Program, I was completely unprepared for the adventure that awaited. Certainly I'd always had an interest in politics, but to be thrust into the activity in Washington as a junior in high school was exciting and enriching far beyond anything I'd experienced to that point. From the informative lectures and discussion sessions to the media attention to the chance to meet and interact with Mom Hearst and the representatives of the Hearst Foundation, it was the type of exposure to the rough-and-tumble of real politics that most sixteen-year-olds never get to experience.

I'd like to thank Randy and Norman for providing me with a newsletter format that's very easy to edit and for the “template” for doing this successfully in the future. I'd like to also thank a group of people who are not part of the USSYAA—my co-workers at Econoprint—who have helped to produce and mail this newsletter and the four newsletters prior to this.

I hope to see you at the end of February in Washington!



UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Alumni Weekend 2005 Calendar of Events

Alumni Dinner

When: Friday, February 25, 2005
7:30 pm (tentative)

Where: Capitol Hill
Metro: Union Station

Cost: To Be Announced

Membership Meeting

When: Saturday, February 26, 2005
9:30 am – 12:00 noon (tentative)

Where: Capitol Hill
Metro: Union Station

Hospitality Day Mentoring Tables

When: Saturday, February 26, 2005
Afternoon and Early Evening

Where: Mayflower Hotel
Metro: Farragut North

2004–05 Reply Form

Your Name _____ Name as Delegate (if Different) _____

Delegate State _____ Delegate Year _____

☐ I updated my contact information online on ____/____/____

☐ Please update my information with the following:

Mailing Address ☐ Home ☐ Office ☐ Campus _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

E-Mail Address _____

Preferred Telephone Number ☐ Home ☐ Office ☐ Campus ☐ Mobile _____

☐ **Yes**, I plan to attend the alumni dinner

Please e-mail me information as it becomes available.

☐ **Yes**, I plan to attend the annual membership meeting

☐ **Yes**, I would like to participate at the following mentoring table on Hospitality Day:

☐ Health Care ☐ Business ☐ Government
☐ Education ☐ Law ☐ College

☐ **Yes**, I would like to make a tax-deductible contribution to the **Rosalie Wynn and George Randolph Hearst, Sr., Alumni Scholarship Fund.***

☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100
☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000 ☐ Other _____

☐ **Yes**, I would like to make a tax-deductible unrestricted contribution to the **United States Senate Youth Alumni Association.***

☐ \$10 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100
☐ \$250 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1000 ☐ Other _____

☐ I have enclosed my check payable to **USSYAA** for my tax-deductible contributions to the scholarship fund or the general fund

Please detach and mail with your check (if applicable) to:

USSYAA

PO Box 1798

Washington, DC 20013-1798

*Please investigate whether a matching contribution from your employer is possible. A contribution to the USSYAA or its scholarship fund is not required to participate in the events of alumni weekend. The scholarship fund is a project of the USSYAA and is not affiliated with nor endorsed by the William Randolph Hearst Foundations.