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Editors' Note

Welcome to the second volume of *Mapping Politics*. Building on the incredible success of last year's inaugural volume, this edition provides yet another opportunity for undergraduates and recent graduates to showcase their research and writing talents in an academic forum. Each selection was chosen for publication after a sometimes painstaking peer-review process. Through much hard work and dedication, everyone involved with this second edition has turned in an impressive effort to produce a truly genuine collaborative effort.

Following the example set forth in the first volume, Volume Two contains informative and at times provocative research aimed at gaining a better understanding of the world through a political science perspective. The topics that follow are exceptionally diverse, examining issues such as judicial review in Europe, a post-structuralist analysis of the Canadian decision not to participate in the Iraq War and a historical institutionalist analysis of Employment Insurance in rural Newfoundland and Labrador. Regardless of what your specific interests may be, we are sure you will find the material contained within this edition both informative and interesting.

An effort such as this requires the time and dedication of many individuals, and our sincerest gratitude is extended to everyone who donated their time to this endeavor. First of all, we thank our faculty supervisor Dr. Amanda Bittner, whose knowledge and wisdom helped to guide us through even the most challenging circumstances. Also, publication would not have been possible without the kind support of Student Affairs and Services, as well as the Department of Political Science. Lisa Goddard and the Queen Elizabeth II Library have once again provided invaluable support in letting us publish in an electronic format. We also would like to thank the members of the editorial review team and all of the authors who submitted work, making sure *Mapping Politics* is as valuable as we all intend it to be. Finally, we extend a heartfelt thank you to last year's editor Jillian Terry and departing design editor Angela Cleary, without whom *Mapping Politics* would remain a dream unfulfilled.

We hope you get as much enjoyment out of reading Volume Two as we have by being part of the process. The quality of work has left us impressed and eagerly anticipating what will follow in future editions. The bar was set high with last year's standard, and we are sure you will agree Volume Two does a great job of measuring up.

Shawn Kavanagh and Maggie Peyton

About the Contributors

Erin Aylward has just completed her Honours in Political Science and a Major in Spanish at Memorial University. She is commencing her Master's at the University of Ottawa in International Development with a Specialization in Women's Studies this fall.

Drew Brown is an alumnus of Memorial University. He graduated in 2010 with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Political Science and Economics, and is returning to Memorial this year to complete a Master of Arts degree in Political Science.

Xaiver Michael Campbell is an undergraduate student at Memorial University. He is currently in his third year pursuing a joint Honours in Political Science and English Language and Literature.

Jonas Holmlund was an exchange student at Memorial University in the fall of 2009. He holds a previous Bachelor degree in History and recently completed a Master of Education degree at Umeå University, Sweden. Jonas is currently pursuing postgraduate studies focusing on Postcolonial Politics at Aberystwyth University, UK.

Brad R. King is an undergraduate student at Memorial University of Newfoundland. He is in his third year of study in the Bachelor of Arts (Honours) program, with a major in Political Science. In April 2010 he was awarded, by the Senate Committee on Undergraduate Scholarships, the Gunther Hartmann Scholarship.

Erika Marie Kirkpatrick graduated from MUN in 2010 with a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Political Science and a minor in European Studies. She is currently pursuing an M.A. at the University of Ottawa specializing in International Relations.

Colin Scott is an undergraduate student at Memorial University. He is currently in his fourth year and working towards a double major with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a Bachelor of Science in Psychology.

Adam Vickers is an alumnus of Memorial University. He graduated in 2010 with a Bachelor of Arts degree, majoring in Political Science with a minor in Mathematics. He is currently working in Executive Council's Communications Branch with the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador. Adam plans on pursuing a career in law.

About the Editors

Editor **Shawn Kavanagh** is a fourth year undergraduate student pursuing an Honours degree in Political Science at Memorial University. His thesis deals with the impact of the 2008 recession on Public Opinion toward immigration reform in the United States.

Editor **Maggie Peyton** is entering her fourth and final year at Memorial University. She is studying both Political Science and Spanish and often has a hard time choosing between her love of politics and her love of languages.

Design Editor **Angela Cleary**, after pursuing political science at Memorial University for three years has combined both her intelligence and comparative passion into a new direction. Angela is currently completing a fine arts degree while finishing her liberal arts degree at Concordia University in Montreal, Quebec.

Faculty advisor **Dr. Amanda Bittner** is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Memorial University. Before coming to Memorial, she completed her PhD in Political Science at the University of British Columbia. Her research interests include public opinion, elections and voting, political psychology, and women and politics.

About the Selection Panel

Tess Hemeon is completing her final year of Political Science with a special interest in European Studies and Public Policy. During the Fall semester of 2010, she is attending the Harlow campus of Memorial University.

Leanne Joy is a recent graduate of Memorial University (May 2010), completing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and History. She will be attending Carleton University in September, pursuing graduate studies in European and Russian Studies.

Jeff Loder is a per-course instructor in the Department of Political Science at Memorial University and a PhD candidate at McMaster University. His research interests include Globalization and the European Union.

Susan Piercey is a Masters of Arts student in Political Science at Memorial University with plans to graduate in 2011. Her research mainly focuses on women in politics and Canadian politics. Her undergraduate thesis investigated the career paths of female Members of Parliament in Canada since 1922.

Stephanie Roy is a fourth year undergraduate student of Memorial University. She is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree in Political Science. Her Honours thesis examines dynastic parties in the Canadian provinces. Upon graduation in May 2011 Stephanie intends to pursue graduate studies.

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