Campaign 2004 Comes to Harvard

Hundreds of students attend a Debate Watch in the JFK Jr. Forum
I was thrilled to return to the Institute of Politics for the fall 2004 semester while a new long-term director is recruited. As a former IOP Director (1995-1998), I jumped at the chance to return to such a special place at an important time. This summer, IOP Director Dan Glickman, Harvard students, and IOP staff went into high gear to mobilize, inspire, and engage young people in politics and the electoral process.

- We hosted events for political powerbrokers during the Democratic and Republican National Conventions.
- We are working to ensure all Harvard voices are heard at the polls through our dynamic and effective H-VOTE campus vote program, as well as coordinating the voter education and mobilization activities of nearly 20 other schools across America, part of our National Campaign for Political and Civic Engagement.
- Our Resident Fellows this semester are an impressive group. They bring experiences from media, to managing campaigns, to the Middle East. See inside for more information on our exciting fellows.
- A survey we conducted with *The Chronicle of Higher Education* found that most of America’s college campuses are politically active, but 33% of schools fail to meet federal requirements facilitating voter registration opportunities for students.
- We were proud to sponsor a new book, *Skirting Tradition: Women in Politics Speak to the Next Generation*, featuring essays from prominent women in politics. The book was edited by current Harvard undergrads.

We continue to work every day to stay at the forefront of political activity, research, discussion, and debate – and there is no more exciting time in politics than the fall of a national election. I encourage you to check out our new, redesigned website – [www.iop.harvard.edu](http://www.iop.harvard.edu) – to learn more about our programs and events.
On July 1 of this year, David T. Ellwood, Scott M. Black Professor of Political Economy, replaced Joseph S. Nye, Jr., as the new Dean of the John F. Kennedy School. He previously served as U.S. Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation at the Department of Health and Human Services, and was Co-Chair of President Clinton's efforts on welfare reform. He has been a member of the Kennedy School faculty since 1980.

On September 1, IOP Director Dan Glickman left the Institute of Politics to succeed Jack Valenti as the president of the Motion Picture Association of America. Replacing Glickman for the fall 2004 semester is Philip Sharp, a former U.S. Congressman and IOP Director (1995-1998) who will serve as the Institute's Interim Director while a new long-term director is recruited. Dean Ellwood has asked Academic Dean Stephen Walt to chair a search committee to identify potential candidates.

“The Institute of Politics is one of the School’s most visible and successful institutions, and it serves as a living legacy to President Kennedy’s own commitment to public service,” Ellwood said. “I look forward to working with the advisory committee to select a new Director who will continue the Institute’s long tradition of nurturing a passion for politics among undergraduate and graduate students alike.”

Phil Sharp served as IOP Director from 1995 to 1998 and has been a member of the Institute’s Senior Advisory Committee since 1998. He also served on the Kennedy School faculty as a Lecturer in Public Policy from 1995 to 2001, teaching courses such as “To Be A Politician” and “Introducing Competition Into The Electric Utility Industry.”

Sharp served as a Member of Congress from Indiana from 1975 to 1995. As a member of two major committees, Energy and Commerce and the Interior Committee, Sharp specialized in energy policy. He was a key leader in the passage of the Energy and Policy Act of 1992—the last comprehensive energy bill to pass the Congress and the most sweeping legislation since the 1970s.

“I look forward to working with the advisory committee to select a new Director who will continue the Institute’s long tradition of nurturing a passion for politics.”

—David Ellwood, Dean, JFK School
Fall in the Kennedy’s School’s JFK Jr. Forum served up numerous engaging and lively programs featuring high-profile speakers, including a U.S. Supreme Court Justice and a Presidential candidate.

United States Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia delivered the 2004 Edwin L. Godkin Lecture in the Forum on September 28. Scalia, appointed to the court in 1986 and considered one of its more conservative members, took issue with the high court’s direction since the controversial Roe v. Wade decision in 1973 legalizing abortion.

Speaking before a packed audience, Justice Scalia warned of the perils of a “living Constitution” whose future evolution depends on “judge moralists” with the power to “determine the government’s view of what the ‘natural law’ proscribes.” “A change occurred in the last half of the 20th century and I am sorry to say that my court was responsible for it,” he declared. “We developed a doctrine that the meaning of the Constitution could change over time to comport with the ‘evolving standards of decency that marked the progress of a maturing society.’”

Less than a week later, Presidential candidate Ralph Nader addressed an overflow crowd of students on October 4 at the John F. Kennedy Jr. Forum.

Nader repeatedly made the point that third-party candidates force the major parties to take a stand on crucial issues, which in the past included the abolition of slavery, women’s suffrage, and the rights of workers. The stakes today, Nader contended, are urgent.

On major issues, Nader said he sees the two parties reacting as one and the same: the massive military budget, corporate globalization, Iraq, corporate crime, corporate welfare, and redistricting, among others. Nader observed that he differs from other candidates in that he refuses to flatter voters – or audiences. This was clear in his challenging responses to questions and in his assertion that the country, and the audience, was full of “liberals incapable of any social indignation, who have attained their own status in life and feel pretty comfortable about it, estranged and distanced from the raw material of poverty and desperation . . . that’s sweeping our country.”

For a complete list of this semester’s forums, go to www.iop.harvard.edu.
The Institute of Politics was a proud participant at both the Democratic and Republican National Conventions this summer.

During the DNC, our close proximity to Boston’s FleetCenter provided the IOP with a unique opportunity to develop programming that illustrated our commitment to engaging college students in politics and in the upcoming fall elections. We played host to the kickoff event for the College Democrats of America Annual Convention, held a session for college students on mobilizing their campuses to vote and broadcast a special edition of NPR’s *The Connection*, which focused on celebrity and youth politics. *Washington Week* with Gwen Ifill featured her fellow IOP Senior Advisory Committee Member Rick Berke at the Forum. The John F. Kennedy Jr. Forum also included discussions on both domestic and foreign policy featuring President Summers, Dean Ellwood and Harvard faculty from both sides of the aisle. Each evening of the convention the IOP was “the place” for young people to watch the activities at the FleetCenter.

We were very pleased to team up with the Republican National Committee to host a luncheon and several speakers at the Harvard Club of New York for the “Republican Page” program during the RNC. We were joined by former IOP Director Al Simpson; former advisor to the U.S. Presidential envoy in Iraq, Dan Senor; Tom DeLay’s former chief of staff and former IOP fellow Susan Hirschmann; and WWE Superstar Chris “Chris Harvard” Nowinski ’00. We kicked the week off with a reception honoring the over 500 Harvard alumni who have served at the highest levels of our national political system. In conjunction with the conventions we released a publication that outlined ways in which campaign managers and candidates can court the youth vote. “Are You Talking to Me: A Guide to Reaching Young Voters,” outlines a non-partisan approach to increasing college voter participation.
An innovative new survey conducted by the IOP and *The Chronicle of Higher Education* found that most of America’s college campuses are politically active, but 33% of schools fail to meet federal requirements facilitating voter registration opportunities for students.

“Students and administrators on many campuses are effectively helping to increase civic participation,” said IOP Director Phil Sharp. “However, not all colleges and universities are fulfilling their obligations under the Higher Education Act to facilitate student voter registration.”

The survey finds –

**Political activity abounds on America’s college campuses.** More than eight in ten schools surveyed report hosting political speakers on campuses last semester. More than seven in ten hosted voter registration drives. More than one-third say protests or rallies took place on their campus.

**Most schools meet the letter or the spirit of federal law, which requires voter registration efforts on campus.** Approximately two-thirds of the schools surveyed meet either the letter or the spirit of the federal Higher Education Act of 1998. The Act requires colleges and universities to request a sufficient number of voter registration forms to be distributed to each enrolled student 120 days before an election’s registration deadline. Only 17 percent of schools surveyed report meeting the Act’s strict requirements, while nearly 49 percent meet the “spirit” of the law by making voter registration materials readily available on campus.

Still, too many schools fail to meet either the letter or the spirit of federal law requiring voter registration opportunities on campus. The survey finds nearly 36 percent of schools are not living up to the letter or the spirit of the Higher Education Act of 1998. These schools cite such barriers as a lack of information regarding the law’s requirements and difficulties in planning.

“Over one-third of schools surveyed need to stay after class when it comes to providing voter registration opportunities for their students,” said Professor David King, IOP Research Director.

Data from this and other IOP surveys, as well as a national absentee voter information guide, are available online at [www.iop.harvard.edu](http://www.iop.harvard.edu).
New York Times editorial page, “Making Votes Count,” Tuesday, September 28:
“College and university administrators also bear some of the blame. Under the Higher Education Act of 1998, colleges and universities receiving federal funds must make a good-faith effort to distribute voter registration forms to every student, and to make those forms widely available on campus. But a newly released study by Harvard University’s Institute of Politics and The Chronicle of Higher Education found that fewer than 17 percent of schools are in full compliance, and one-third are not even making minimal efforts.”

Boston Globe, “The Decline of Election Day,” September 19:
“The Chronicle of Higher Education and Harvard’s Institute of Politics released a study showing that 33 percent of US colleges and universities are not complying with a federal law that requires them to provide students with voter-registration forms. Those schools, scolded David King, the institute’s director of research, ‘are . . . clearly failing their students, the communities in which they live, and . . . the next generation of political voters.’”

Los Angeles Times, “Colleges Stumble in Aiding Voter Registration,” September 14:
“Young people have been maligned for turning out on election day in small numbers ever since the voting age was lowered to 18 in 1972, but the study suggests they face more barriers to registration than just apathy.

‘Colleges and universities, whose mission it is to educate young people, could do much better,’ said Leslie Pope, a Harvard student. Potential new voters ‘should have more resources than ... Google.’”

Associated Press, “Survey: Campuses politically active, but don’t meet obligations” September 13:
“Some 249 schools responded to the survey, which was released Monday. Seventeen percent of the schools met the requirement and 37 percent said they graded their effectiveness at registering young voters at C or worse. ‘It was pretty clear that not all knew what the requirements were under the Higher Education Act,’ said Philip Sharp, director of the Harvard Institute.”
This fall, the National Campaign has focused almost exclusively on serving as a resource to student voters at Harvard and across the country. In addition to updating and maintaining our Guide to Absentee Voting on the IOP website, an email address was added, from which we answered hundreds of questions each week about voting.

The National Campaign has also developed H-VOTE (Harvard Voter Outreach and Turnout Effort), which is the Harvard version of the registration, education, and mobilization activities going on at each of our partner schools.

H-VOTE consists of five different areas of focus:

- Registration
- E-mail notifications and reminders of voting deadlines
- Debate Watch discussions with experts after each of the debates
- Politics 101, a weekly discussion group for freshmen to foster political discussion
- A campus-wide voter mobilization competition

The centerpiece of the effort is the campus wide competition, which engages all of the houses and freshman dorms to get the largest number of voters pledged to cast their ballot on November 2nd. With the support of House Masters and the House communities, students are helping their peers with information about the candidates, absentee applications and ballots, and getting local student voters to the polls. This program is being facilitated through a strong presence in all of the house communities, and the incentive will come in the form of a prize for the house and dorm with the highest turnout.

H-VOTE registered first-year students before classes even began.
In September, the National Campaign brought partner schools together for our annual meeting – some coming through Hurricane Frances to get here! At the conference, schools reported on their progress with their different voter campaigns. Called by many different names such as, “Count Me In” “Project Geaux” “2,004 in 2004” and even “20,004 in 2004,” and with taglines such as, “Feel the Power” “Engage in Your Community; Commit to Your World” and “Make Your Voice Heard,” we heard about the successes and obstacles of student registering and voting. With a fantastic media training from the LSU team – Professor Dave Kurpius and students Jaci Cole, Michelle Grieg, and Sarah Gernhauser – participants explored how they could bring the story of their voter efforts to the media, and take advantage of recent interest in voter turnout efforts. The media training was a highlight for all.

Students and administrators participated in brainstorming sessions around some of the obstacles to students becoming involved in politics. Several problems were identified, especially lack of education, resources, and access. Brainstorming discussions were held to identify solutions to those problems, and to find ways for college students to reach out to younger students.

The conference also focused on the work of the National Campaign after the election. The National Campaign for Political and Civic Engagement will move into the phase of civic education and enhancing the opportunities for careers in public service. The National Campaign’s interest in civic education is to determine some of the foundational causes of students’ disconnection from politics. Do students understand the world of politics and policy? Do they know how to get involved? Although students in the past would have a strong grasp of how our government works, there are clear indications that today’s young people do not. The National Campaign also will begin to work on developing more opportunities for and more understanding of careers in public service – moving beyond the world of non-profits that many students think of as “public service” – to the need for fresh faces in government, policy and advocacy.

Current institutions participating in this national effort are:

- Allegheny College
- Birmingham Southern College
- Clark Atlanta University
- Elon University
- Grinnell College
- Louisiana State University
- Ohio State University
- Rutgers University
- Saint Anselm College
- Tufts University
- University of Kansas
- University of Oklahoma
- University of Rochester
- University of Southern California
- University of Tennessee, Knoxville
- University of Texas
- University of Utah
- University of Virginia
- Vanderbilt University
The IOP’s fall fellows are an interesting and diverse group, each leading seven-week not-for-credit study groups to discuss current issues in American politics and public policy. Fellows interact with students, participate in the intellectual life of the community, and pursue individual studies or projects. The Fellows Program is central to the Institute’s dual commitment to encourage student interest in public life and to increase information sharing between the academic and political communities.

Fellows this semester range from political heavyweights to policy professionals, and are a truly eclectic and engaging group – the vice president at large of the Washington Post and executive editor when the newspaper published articles that exposed the Watergate scandal, campaign manager for a one-time 2004 democratic presidential frontrunner, the former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Vermont, the former U.S. Ambassador to Yemen and former U.S. Coordinator for Baghdad, an Assistant to President Bush and first-ever Director of USA Freedom Corps, a former Assistant General Counsel to the Central Intelligence Agency, and a news anchor/television journalist from one of the biggest media markets in the country.

“This dynamic group brings an impressive and exciting collection of experience ranging from the media, managing campaigns, and the Middle East,” said Phil Sharp, interim director of the Institute of Politics. “Their expertise, experience and enthusiasm is helping to engage our students and the community.”

Fellows visiting for part of the semester are: Susan Blumenthal, U.S. Assistant Surgeon General and former Deputy Assistant Secretary for Women’s Health; Angus King, Governor of Maine, 1995-2003; and Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, Lieutenant Governor of Maryland, 1995-2003.
**Students Explore Political Career Paths**

IOP-supported interns work in a variety of political roles

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**Greg Bybee ’07, Senator Herb Kohl**

“I was able to intern for U.S. Senator Herb Kohl and volunteer for the Wisconsin Democratic Coordinated Campaign. These opportunities shaped the course of my education and career paths and made an otherwise routine summer exciting.”

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**Kate Gluckman ’07, “Hardball with Chris Matthews”**

“My summer internship experience was amazing! Working at ‘Hardball’ and living in DC made for a great combination of summer fun. It was great to actually see my product get on air.”

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**Anat Maytal ’06, National Organization of Women**

“Working at NOW has been very challenging and thought-provoking. The organization has provided me with such unique opportunities to meet and work with incredibly inspirational and powerful women in politics.”
Skirting Tradition
Female political pioneers, powerbrokers call young women to politics

The latest book release at the IOP is Skirting Tradition: Women in Politics Speak to the Next Generation, featuring essays from prominent women in politics aiming to inspire young women to careers in the political arena. The book was conceived, compiled, and edited by current Harvard undergraduates.

“Fewer women in politics and government today means fewer role models and mentors for young women,” said Lia Larson, Skirting Tradition editor. “This book will hopefully help fill that void, and energize more young women toward careers in public service.”

Skirting Tradition is an eclectic collection of essays, anecdotes and speeches by political leaders at the federal, state, and local level in which women tell firsthand about their personal paths into the political world.

Published by Hollis Publishing $12.95 (U.S.), Skirting Tradition offers essays from an ideologically diverse group of political leaders, including: Cabinet Secretaries Madeleine Albright, former U.S. Secretary of State and the only woman ever to hold the position, and U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao, the first Asian-American woman appointed to a President’s cabinet in U.S. history; U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA); Donna Brazile and Celinda Lake, leading democratic political strategists; Sheila Burke, Chief of Staff to former U.S. Senate Majority Leader Robert Dole (R-KS), the first woman to hold the post; Eleanor Clift, Newsweek contributing editor; U.S. Senator Elizabeth Dole (R-NC), one of only two women to serve as president of the American Red Cross; Susan Hirschmann, former Chief of Staff to House Majority Whip Tom DeLay (R-TX); U.S. House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA); Jeanne Shaheen, former Governor of New Hampshire, the state’s first woman to hold the position; U.S. Senators Olympia Snowe and Susan Collins (R-ME); and Marie Wilson, co-founder and president of the White House Project, a national organization dedicated to getting women involved in politics.

Skirting Tradition: Women in Politics Speak to the Next Generation is available through most major booksellers including Amazon.com, Borders, and Barnes & Noble.
Did your time at the IOP influence your post-graduation plans?

Yes, definitely. Serving on the Student Advisory Committee exposed me to the Fellows and the IOP in an intimate way, and I learned a great deal. It was an important part of my political activities at Harvard, where I was also the President of the Harvard Republican Club. My involvement with the IOP brought the national stage to Harvard, and showed me where I could make a difference as a player in the political world.

As a member of the IOP’s Student Advisory Committee, you helped organize the activities of high-profile people participating in our visiting fellows program. Did working closely with such big-time political luminaries inspire you to become one?

I am not sure if I qualify as a big-time political luminary, but it was inspiring to be in direct contact with such important political figures during the late 1980s. I can think of very few comparable political activities at Harvard that brought students face-to-face with leaders. That kind of interaction is very important to a student who wants to make a difference.

You were selected as one of only a handful of congressional candidates from across the nation to give a speech at the Republican National Convention in late August in New York City. How big a thrill was that, and what can you say about your experience there?

It was a huge thrill. Frankly, it was surprisingly daunting. I have become accustomed to speaking in front of large audiences, so I wasn’t nervous before the speech. But when I walked out onto Madison Square Garden’s stage and saw the large audience, I felt the butterflies in my stomach. I wish I could say the RNC selected me to speak because of my stunning oratorical skills, but frankly that is not the case - they chose me because of the closeness of my race and because they wanted to give me a national stage to speak from. This race is generally regarded as one of the top three opportunities for a Republican pick-up in the House of Representatives against a Democratic incumbent. If any readers are interested in seeing my brief moment in the spotlight, they can see it on my website at www.kobachforcongress.com.

What will be the deciding factor in the election for Kansas’ third Congressional district, in which you face Democratic incumbent Dennis Moore?

It’s going to be a very close race. In 2002, the Republican challenger came within 7000 votes of unseating the Democratic incumbent – so it could come down to the wire. Republicans outnumber Democrats in Kansas’ 3rd District almost 2 to 1, so get-out-the-vote efforts will be critical. Another important factor in the race has been national support – it is always difficult for a challenger to keep pace with an incumbent in terms of fundraising, and our great national support has allowed us to go toe-to-toe with my opponent in broadcast advertising.
IOP debuts new website
The IOP was proud to launch its newly redesigned website in September, the culmination of months of work and effort to give our site a better and easier-to-use layout – and a look of excellence. Highlights of the site include a rotating photo collage, a featured alumni section, automatically updating events calendar, and scrolling news ticker with all of the day’s top news. We hope you enjoy our new site, still at our current web address, www.iop.harvard.edu.

First-ever New Frontier Awards to be awarded November 15
The John F. Kennedy Library Foundation and the Institute of Politics created the John F. Kennedy New Frontier Awards to honor young Americans who are changing their communities—and the country—with their commitment to public service. The first two winners of the award will be announced on November 15. One award will honor an elected official whose work in politics has brought significant, tangible results in response to a public challenge. The other award will honor an individual whose contributions in the realm of community service, advocacy or grassroots activism have had a positive impact on a broad public policy issue or challenge.

IOP’s “New Members Program” a must for fall winners
A congressional tradition since 1972, the Program for Newly Elected Members at Harvard University will be held November 30–December 2. This unique program is specifically designed to address issues such as the budget and foreign policy while emphasizing ways that a Member of Congress can have an impact within Congress and on the Executive Branch. The bipartisan sessions will be led by academics, present and former Members of Congress, congressional staff, and White House personnel who represent both political parties and divergent political viewpoints.

To watch these past events and more, visit www.iop.harvard.edu. In conjunction with the new website, five years’ worth of forum archives are now available online! These archives are on demand and fully searchable—come check out a favorite from the past, or one you missed just last week.

10/12/04 “The Making of the 9/11 Commission Report,” with Philip Zelikow (Executive Director, 9/11 Commission)

10/04/04 “Barriers to the Presidency,” with Ralph Nader (Independent Presidential Candidate)

09/29/04 “Separation of Powers,” with Antonin Scalia (United States Supreme Court Justice)
Caroline Adler (SAC 2004) is Assistant to Jack Corrigan of the Democratic National Committee.

Theresa Amato (Fall 2002 Fellow) is Independent Presidential Candidate Ralph Nader’s Campaign Manager.

Victor Ashe (Spring 2004 Fellow) has been appointed as Ambassador to Poland.

Peter Buttigieg (SAC 2004) is currently Research Director for the Arizona Democratic Party.

Andrei Cherney (SAC 1997) has returned to the IOP to lead a discussion group on the elections.

Dan Glickman (Director 2002-2004) is now the President of the Motion Picture Association of America.

James Granger (SAC 2005) is taking a leave of absence and is currently tour manager for Rock the Vote.

Steve Jarding (Spring 2004 Fellow) has returned to Harvard as an Adjunct Lecturer in Public Policy at the Kennedy School of Government.

Bill Lacy (Spring 1991 Fellow) is the new Director of the Dole Institute of Politics at the University of Kansas.

Antanas Mockus (Spring 2004 Fellow) is a Robert F. Kennedy Visiting Professor at the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies.

Nat Myers (SAC 2004) is a Regional Deputy Political Director for the Kerry/Edwards Campaign.

Jackie Newmyer (SAC 2001) is a Fellow at Harvard University’s John M. Olin Institute for Strategic Studies.

Aneesh Raman (SAC 2001) is a CNN Field Correspondent, currently located out of Bangkok.

Betsy Sykes (SAC 2004) is working on the Bush/Cheney campaign in Washington, D.C.

Send all news and updates that you would like to share with the IOP community to Karin Kane Bloom (Karin_Kane_Bloom@ksg.harvard.edu).
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