

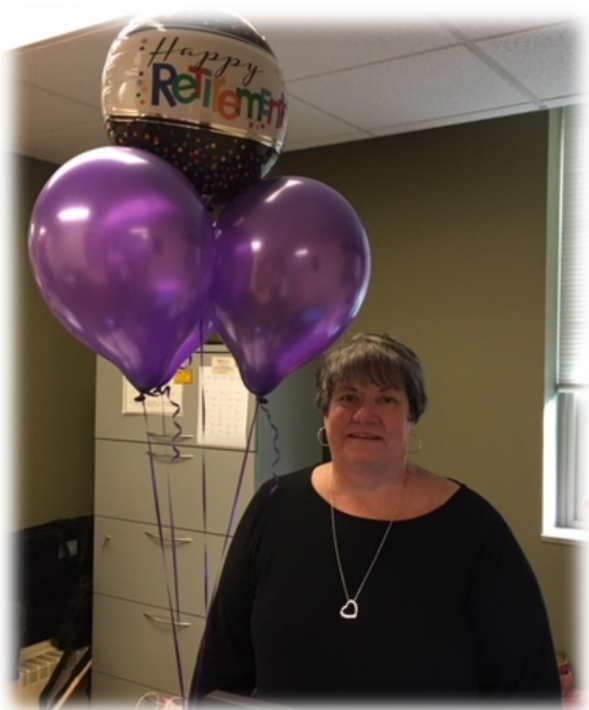
# POLITICAL SCIENCE

## Special Issue

Stephanie's Retirement

Alumni Events

Faculty Achievements



## THANK YOU STEPHANIE!

One of the most momentous things that could ever happen to our department took place on December 15, 2017.

That was Stephanie Painter's last day with us.

Yes, you read that right!

Steph has begun a well-deserved retirement, and I know that for many of you, as for all of us, it's almost incomprehensible to think of our department without Steph being here at the center of things.

I'm fortunate to be surrounded by talented colleagues, but if you ask any of us to name the one person who seems to know everything and who can solve any problem that comes our way, none of us would hesitate to call out Steph's name.

Her contributions to our department's and our university's well-being are so numerous, and she has been making them for so long, that it would be tedious to list them. Suffice it to say that the range of responsibilities Steph took on over the years is staggering and touched virtually every area of our department's activities.

As impressive as is her willingness to expand her expertise, what might be more remarkable is the professional manner with which she successfully met all of her different obligations. She always turned in high quality work, which reflects her intelligence and attention to detail.

Rarer still, she did all of this with good cheer.

Now don't be fooled – Steph is as tough as nails when she needs to be, and if any of you ever stepped too far out of line with her, well, I know you have a good tale to tell about how you were put in your place.

But alongside her professional talent, what always shines through with Steph is her heart – it's as generous and as kind as can be.

From where I've sat the last few years, I've been able to see first-hand the parade of people who stopped by to talk with her every day --- our faculty and students, colleagues from near-by departments, university administrators, mail personnel, folks from the Dean's office, and from buildings and grounds --- and while each one of them had no idea how many people she'd spoken with that day, each left feeling that she had all the time in the world to listen to their stories, commiserate with their frustrations, and celebrate their successes.

It's that gift of grace that might be Steph's most precious legacy.

So now her husband, Randy, and her sons Josh and Kyle, and that whole great clan that she loves so dearly will get to spend more time with her, and Steph deserves to be more in their company.

We are lucky beyond telling that she came our way, and stayed with us for so long.



## Alumni Events



On November 14, 2017, three department alumni returned to campus and spoke with a group of students about their experiences since graduating with a Political Science B.A. and/or a Master's of Public Administration degree. Patrick Bennett, Lauren McNichols, and Todd Blevins spoke to students as a panel. and then broke out in one-on-one conversations about how their collegiate experiences helped shape their professional careers. The discussion, co-sponsored by the Ball State Career Center, provided great advice about what classes students should consider, including internships and studying abroad, as well as the importance of focusing their efforts on their desired career path. We thank Patrick, Lauren, and Todd for the generous gift of their time and expertise, and we look forward to hosting similar events in the future!

## Faculty Achievements

**Sean Hildebrand's** article, "Controlling Disasters: Local Emergency Management Perceptions about Federal Emergency Management and Homeland Security Actions after September 11, 2001" was published in *Journal of Emergency Management*.

**Chad Kinsella, Michael Maggiotto, and Kevin Turcotte** (Geography) had their paper, "Competitiveness in State Legislative Races: An Indiana Micro-test", accepted for delivery at the 2018 Midwest Political Science Association Meeting.

Calling ALL Alums!

Interested in connecting with current students?

Please complete this short survey to let us know your interest in student engagement.

[https://bsu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV\\_5uxvFCJog6OqB9P](https://bsu.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_5uxvFCJog6OqB9P)

Connect with us on Facebook for all the current events!

