

Wayne Morse Center for Law and Politics Presents

"Mobilizing New Constituencies: The 2008 Election"

Thursday, February 19, 2009

10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Gerlinger Lounge and Knight Law Center
University of Oregon**

The elections of 2008 are memorable in many ways. This program examines how campaigns organized new groups of voters, particularly youth and people of color. The Obama campaign created a new standard in organizing on the ground and with the internet, and communities of color were critical in many races. Speakers will examine the strategies and tactics that worked to enhance participation of new voters and look to the future to discuss how this engagement can be sustained.

Two veteran campaign strategists who were central to the Obama campaign operation discuss lessons from the Obama Campaign at 3:45 pm at the Knight Law Center.

Keynote Session: Knight Law Center, 3:45 to 5:30 pm

"Yes We Did! Organizing Lessons from the Obama Campaign"

- **Steve Hildebrand**, Deputy Campaign Manager, Obama for America
- **Dan Carol**, Issues and Content Director, Obama for America

Other Keynote Speakers

- **Matthew Barreto**, University of Washington
- **Jefferson Smith**, newly elected to Oregon House of Representatives, founder of the Bus Project
- **Kitty Piercy**, Mayor of Eugene

Agenda

10:00 a.m.: Keynote Session 1

Analysis of the 2008 Vote: Focus On Race and New Voters

Matthew Barreto, Assistant Professor of Political Science, University of Washington
At Gerlinger Lounge

10:45 to 11:45 a.m.: Panel 1

Community Based Organizations and Voter Participation

Daniel HoSang, UO Political Science and Ethnic Studies

Sarah Howell, Project VOTE, Western States Center

David Rogers, Executive Director, Partnership for Safety and Justice

Francisco Lopez, Director, CAUSA

Rebecca Flynn, Basic Rights Oregon
At Gerlinger Lounge

12:00 to 1:30 p.m.: Lunch and Keynote Session 2

Getting New Voters on the Bus: A Look at Civic Engagement in the 2008 Election and Beyond

Kitty Piercy, Re-elected Mayor of Eugene

Jefferson Smith, Oregon House of Representatives; Founder of Oregon's Bus Project

Rick Dancer, Candidate for Secretary of State in 2008.

At Gerlinger Lounge. Lunch will be provided.

1:45 to 3:15 p.m.: Panel 2

Local Campaigns, Young Voters, and Communities of Color.

Moderator: Jared Mason-Gere, Forward Oregon campaign

Andrea Ortiz, Eugene City Councilor

Sara Bean Duncan, President, Oregon Federation of College Democrats

Jory Card, Associated Students of UO

Ashley Miller, Volunteer for the Bus Project

At Gerlinger Lounge

3:45 to 5:30 p.m.: **Keynote Session 3 at Knight Law Center, Room 175**

Yes We Did! Organizing Lessons from the Obama Campaign

Steve Hildebrand, Deputy Campaign Manager, Obama for America

Dan Carol, Content and Issues Director, Obama for America.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Keynote Sessions:

Steve Hildebrand served as the Deputy National Campaign Manager in the historic 2008 Presidential Campaign of Barack Obama. Starting with Senator Obama at the end of September 2006, Hildebrand was at the forefront of all strategic decisions and helped craft the overall campaign from the beginning until the successful victory on November 4, 2008.

Steve's extensive political career has included managing races in South Dakota, Iowa and Minnesota as well as running two political parties. He oversaw the Midwestern states for the Clinton-Gore re-elect in 1996 and served as Political Director at the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee in 1997/1998. In 1999 and 2000, Steve ran the Iowa caucuses for Vice President Gore and the Women Vote! Program for EMILY's List.

In 2005, Hildebrand and Paul Tewes founded Hildebrand Tewes Consulting, a

full-service consulting firm with a specialty in communications, research and grassroots strategy. Past campaign, clients and current clients include Gore for President, Senator Tom Daschle, Senator Tim Johnson, Senator Robert C. Byrd, Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, Americans United to Protect Social Security (ran campaign to defeat the Bush Privatization Plan), America's Voices (leading immigration reform coalition, several international unions – including AFSCME, SEIU and AFL-CIO, Environmental Defense, National Environmental Trust, Planned Parenthood, NARAL Pro-Choice America, The Democratic National Committee, the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee and the Democratic Governor's Association.

Dan Carol is a strategist who consults on "what's next" in energy, climate, telecommunications and consumer marketing for foundations, green businesses and elected officials. Carol served as the Content & Issues Director for the Obama for President Campaign, where he guided the launch of Obama's NewEnergyforAmerica.com plan and the 2008 Democratic Platform, both online and at national meetings with Platform Chair Janet Napolitano. Dan was a co-founder of The Apollo Alliance, a growing strategic effort to promote a national commitment to energy independence and unite Americans of all political stripes in a common purpose. He has been engaged in enhancing political engagement among youth for many years.

Matt A. Barreto is an assistant professor in political science at the University of Washington, Seattle and a member of the Washington Institute for the Study of Ethnicity and Race (WISER). He received his Ph.D. in political science from the University of California, Irvine in 2005. His research examines the political participation of racial and ethnic minorities in the United States and Latino as well as immigrant voting behavior.

Kitty Piercy was re-elected Mayor of Eugene in November 2008. She has been a resident of Eugene for over thirty years and in that time has served in the Oregon House of Representatives and on dozens of boards and commissions. Piercy was a peace core volunteer who became a teacher and public servant. She is known for her advocacy on women's reproductive rights, children and families, sustainable development, and human rights.

Jefferson Smith is a newly elected representative of District 47 in the Oregon legislature. A graduate of Harvard Law School, he is a native Oregonian best known as founder of Oregon's "Bus Project," a nationally recognized non-profit organization dedicated to engaging young people in forward-thinking, community-focused politics. The Bus Project registered over 20,000 young voters this year, which increased the youth electorate and represents 1/5th of the youth electorate in Oregon.

Rick Dancer was a candidate for Oregon Secretary of State in 2008. Formerly he was a television journalist for 23 years in the Coos Bay/Eugene area, including 20 years as the main news anchor for KEZI in Eugene. He is a native

Oregonian and attended college at Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon. Rick has a B.A. in Communications with an emphasis on Broadcast Media. Rick continues to serve the community in many capacities in such as speaking at High School graduations and Emceeing events for numerous non-profit organizations.

Panels:

Daniel HoSang is Assistant Professor of Political Science and Ethnic Studies at the UO and 2008–09 Wayne Morse Center Resident Scholar. He is working on a book titled *Racial Propositions*. He explores the way that ballot initiatives related to race, such as affirmative action and immigration policy, shape the terrain of state and national politics. He has published several articles on race and American political development, political engagement of youth, and Asian Americans in the political process. HoSang is a public intellectual and activist with numerous community organizations.

Francisco Lopez is the statewide coordinator of CAUSA, Oregon's immigrant rights organization. Francisco, a Salvadoran immigrant, brings decades of organizing experience to CAUSA. Most recently, he orchestrated a highly successful voter registration/organizing campaign with CAUSA member organization, Voz Hispana.

David Rogers is the Executive Director of Oregon's Partnership for Safety and Justice (PSJ), an organization that unites people convicted of crime, survivors of crime, and the families of both to redirect policies away from an over-reliance on incarceration to effective strategies that reduce violence and increase safety. Rodgers is a long-time community organizer with PSJ as well as the Western States Center and the Peace Development Fund. In 1997, he was a recipient of a Charles Bannerman Fellowship for Organizers of Color from the New World Foundation.

Sarah Howell joined the Western States Center in January 2008 as a Field Organizer/Trainer in the Civic Engagement Program. She works with community-based organizations, providing training and strategic support to build capacity to fully participate in elections, legislative advocacy, and the public policy process. Previously she worked for Community HIV/AIDS Mobilization Project (CHAMP), a national organization based in New York City. Originally from Montana, Sarah has also worked for violence prevention, queer rights, and economic justice.

Rebecca Flynn is Regional Director for Basic Rights Oregon, the statewide organization working to end discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. She is a graduate of Green Corps, an intensive 13-month grassroots training school, and spent several years traveling the West recruiting, training and mobilizing activists for the Endangered Species Coalition and the Human Rights Campaign before serving as the National Field Organizer for the ACLU. After earning a law degree from Harvard, Rebecca

worked at the Oregon Supreme Court and as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Oregon. She has worked on numerous ballot measure campaigns and local, state and federal electoral races.

Jared Mason–Gere grew up in rural southern Oregon before moving to Eugene where he has worked on progressive campaigns and causes. He served as a Legislative and campaign staffer for several local legislators positions and recently completed a two–year term as the Chair of the Democratic Party of Lane County. In 2008 he worked as Regional Field Director in Southwestern, Central and Eastern Oregon for Forward Oregon, the campaign to elect Jeff Merkley to the U.S. Senate.

Andrea Ortiz is a Eugene City Councilor representing Ward 7, a diverse neighborhood in northwest Eugene. She has served on the Bethel School Board as well as numerous civic and human rights boards and commissions. Ortiz is an activist for transparent, accessible and equitable processes and government. She is a member of the diversity team at PeaceHealth where she works in the emergency department.

Sara Bean Duncan is the current Northwest Regional Director for the College Democrats of America. During the 2008 elections Duncan served as a Campus Organizer for Forward Oregon, the Democratic Coordinated Campaign in Oregon. Her region included the UO, OSU, and schools in Southern and Eastern Oregon.

Jory Card is the 2008–2009 Chief of Staff for the Associated Students of the University of Oregon. The ASUO is a nonprofit organization funded by the University of Oregon and its students. Its purpose is to provide for the social, cultural, educational and physical development of its members. The ASUO is the student government and is run by students for students and works on campus, city, state, and federal–level campaigns.

Ashley Miller is a graduate from the University of Oregon and a member of the local board for the Bus Project. She ran for EWEB Commissioner, worked as campaign coordinator for Alan Leiman for Circuit Court Judge, was the Lane County Field Coordinator for the Yes on Measure 49 campaign to help save Oregon's farms and forestland, and managed the campaign to Re–Elect Kitty Piercy in the primary of 2008.

The Wayne Morse Center is an interdisciplinary center housed in the School of Law. It organizes educational events on critical topics in law and politics, in the tradition of Senator Wayne Morse. Its current theme of inquiry is "Democracy and Citizenship in the 21st Century."

For more information see www.waynemorsecenter.uoregon.edu
