

Next semester, students can look forward to POLS1150 " American Political Systems," the introductory course for political science majors and minors. Over nine weeks, students will get "a little taste of a lot," with topics ranging from gerrymandering to Guantanamo Bay. Ameri-

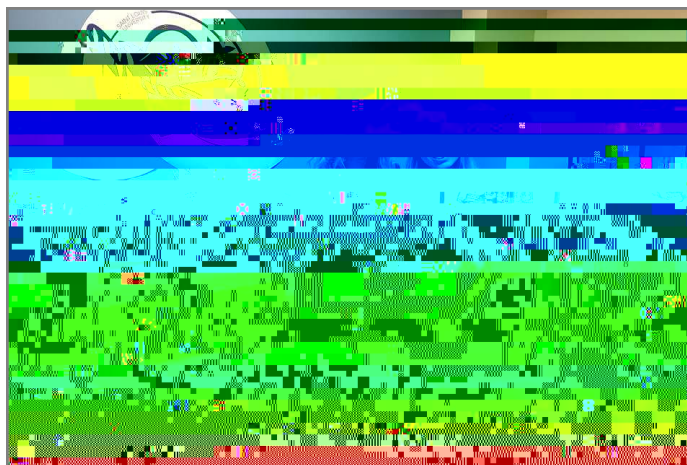
Political Science majors, minors, students taking a course through the department, and friends celebrated the start of the 2018 Fall semester at the Welcome Back Pizza Party hosted by the Political Science Department.

Free pizza, dessert, and drinks weren't the only things to enjoy that day. Students, faculty, and staff got to meet each other in a relaxed and comfortable environment outside the

# Samantha Kiss Organizes

One of the department's very own students is making a major impact on the well being of her fellow SLU students. Samantha Kiss is a senior political science and economics major who took a final research project for professor Gretchen Arnold's course, "The Structure of Poverty," just a few steps further. Cited in a November 28th SLU Newslink feature, Kiss explained how the mission to organize SLU's first student food resource, Billiken Bounty, came about. "We could do anything we wanted for a final project, [...] but she really encouraged us to start something new – something physical, a movement, an initiative. I thought this might be something hard to sell because it requires physical space, money and assets. But I didn't have to sell it at all. SLU has been fully supportive."

Along with her co-organizer and roommate, senior Madalyn Leakey from the Parks School of Engineering, Aviation, and Technology, Kiss furthered her initial research on campus food insecurity through SLU wide surveys,



finding that about 20 percent of SLU's student body is at risk for food insecurity at some point in a college career. To inform their planning process, the two co-chairs learned more about other food resource centers like the one at Indiana University-Purdue University Indiana. Their goal was to ensure that Billiken Bounty would be sustainable and undertaken with care and consideration.

"I always say that food isn't a difficult cause to get behind, but I didn't want it to be a thrown-together project – I wanted it to be a place of dignity. Just seeing a friendly face of a peer at a food resource may make a difference." The program's mission statement echoes Kiss' remarks. As published on SLU's website, "The mission of Billiken Bounty is to provide a sustainable on-campus resource to help alleviate food insecurity among SLU students. The project is guided by the values of privacy, professionalism, respect and dignity."

Since opening in September 2018, Billiken Bounty has been serving up nonperishable food items as well as hygiene and self-care products in a retail-like space where shoppers don't have to demonstrate need and can come and go anonymously. All that is required to access Billiken Bounty's stores is a SLU photo ID.

Partnered with the Dean of Students Office, and run in the name of *cura personalis*, the student food resource is a program that all of the SLU community can get behind. Mona Hicks, Dean of Students, reflected on the impact of Kiss' project "This campus community doesn't mess around. Once you create a path to what's right, they do what's right"

Billiken Bounty is located in Room 311 of the Busch Student Center and is open on Mondays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and Tuesday and Fridays from noon to 6 p.m. The program encourages more

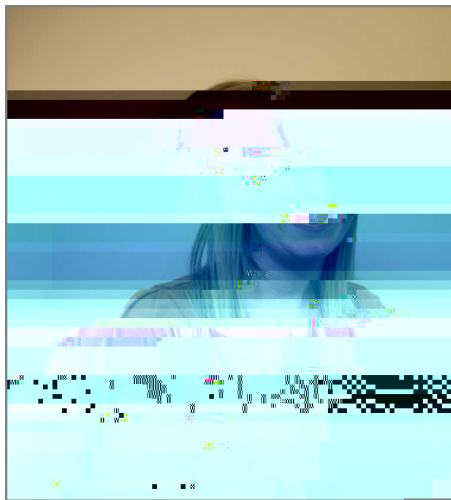
# Constitution Trivia Day

Constitution in the world that is still in use and has helped shape many constitutions around the globe.

The Constitution Day Trivia event involved teams of students from multiple departments showing off their knowledge of the Constitution and competing for prizes. The questions touched on many different areas of expertise regarding the Constitution, including the content and interpretation of the text of the Constitution and amendments; biographical information regarding the framers; and, attributes of the Constitu-

# Dr. Sarah Cate Joins the Department

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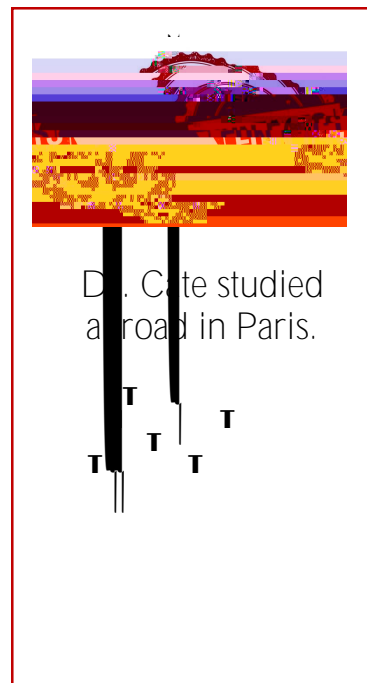


Dr. Cate's work has been published in *Punishment & Society* and *Theoretical Criminology*. In the former, her 2016 article, "Devolution, not decarceration: The limits of juvenile justice reform in Texas," takes a critical look at the increased "popularity of deinstitutionalizing juveniles from state-run corrections institutions and increasing programming and control of offenders at the local level [that is] animating the landscape of criminal

justice policy across the country. [A] Texas case suggests that this narrow approach further consolidates the extensive role of the justice system in U.S. society."

The entire Political Science department looks forward to the great work and growth Dr. Cate has to offer students and the Political Science program.

Visit Dr. Cate in McGannon 139.





While sitting in class or in traffic on the way home from work, drifting off into the depths of your thoughts, you might have found yourself asking, hmmm...what is life like in McGannon 128, the Political Science Mail Room? Well, today is your lucky day because I am going to reveal to you a glimpse of

First things first, the crown jewel, the source of youth (or ~~MWHBUJJDGWKIKOWDWHYHURDFDWDLWWRJHW~~ their hands on...the coffee pot! Every morning, Ms. Shari-lyn fills the device with about 8 cups of water, coffee

