

## Multiple homes for Political Science

A challenge the Department frequently encountered in its first thirty years was its regular uprooting. As the number of faculty and students grew, UB sequentially transferred Political Science from Main Street, to interim facilities in an Amherst office park, to three different locations on the Amherst campus. Political Science thus “enjoyed” the opportunity to uproot itself several times. Where and when the Department moved depended on factors far beyond its control, being primarily a function of new space opening on the North Campus and the ebb-and-flow of State capital funding.

In its early decades, Political Science was housed on the South Campus. Thanks largely to private donors, the small University of Buffalo purchased the former Erie County Almshouse and County Hospital, located on 178 acres at the northeast corner of the City of Buffalo.<sup>1</sup> Over time, it became transformed into a metropolitan campus. The Main-Bailey site was located across the street from the major streetcar turn-around.<sup>2</sup> UB exemplified a commuter school *par excellence*. Successive buildings for the law school were located close to downtown courts and major firms. The medical school also remained far down Main Street, tied directly to the city’s many hospitals, with clinical departments scattered among them. Not until 1953 did campus-based medical teaching and lab facilities open for the School along Bailey Avenue. The College of Arts and Sciences, in addition to professional schools such as Engineering or Business, gradually moved into new buildings on the Main-Bailey site as private benefactors and careful administrators made them possible. Not until 1950 did UB embark on building dormitories in its many acres of open land. Indeed, aerial views of the campus taken in the 1930s, 1940s and the 1950s show a small number of structures separated by large swatches of green space, with a sweeping front lawn at the top of which stood the majestic former Erie County facility.<sup>3</sup>

The first home for Political Science on the South Campus was the neoclassical Crosby Hall.<sup>4</sup> It served the Department, which was then a sub-unit of the Department of History and Government, from its construction until the early 1960s. Department members shared offices with other instructors, occasionally including members of other Departments. Not only did faculty live in close quarters, but staff was shared. As an example, for several years, Political Science and English divided the time of the same secretary.<sup>5</sup>

The growth spurt resulting from the merger with SUNY led to the first of the Department’s six significant moves to date (as of fall-2014). Although the State’s *annual* appropriations varied dramatically with significant effects on the number of faculty, the sub-disciplinary coverage of the Department and the like, *capital* funding continued to flow, albeit spasmodically at times.<sup>6</sup> The first post-Crosby settings – former family residences at the edge of campus; part of a temporary building at the periphery of campus; a rented low-rise office complex well north of the major centers of UB life; and a mammoth student dormitory that was still being constructed during the Department’s period of occupancy – were far from splendid, however. (See pictures of many of these sites on the Political Science website.)

The first migration occurred with the separation of Political Science from History. A typical University District home at 138 Winspear Avenue was purchased in 1963, which housed the entire Department.<sup>7</sup> UB bought the neighboring structure at 142 Winspear the following

year, necessary since Political Science tripled in size from four<sup>8</sup> to thirteen between 1962 and 1964.

In retrospect, the transfer from a solid granite building to a frame home may have been the most significant shift in venue in the Department's history. It established Political Science as a separate discipline and academic unit that should be viewed and judged on its own merits, rather than be subordinated within History.<sup>9</sup> No longer would its identity be submerged within another entity. 138 and 142 Winspear provided the opportunity for intense and informal faculty interaction. The quarters left much to be desired in several respects, yet the close company the initial post-merger group "enjoyed" contributed to an *esprit de corps* that lasted for several years.<sup>10</sup>

These houses quickly proved inadequate, however. Political Science as a discipline was in the throes of a major paradigm reassessment, which coincided with UB's tremendous overall expansion and the "behavioral revolution" well afoot in the early 1960s.<sup>11</sup> Professor Robert Stern, already a well-seasoned veteran of the faculty at this point, commented that the "new" unit "serve[d] as a microcosm what was occurring the discipline at large." "... the choices made at that period – in faculty recruitment; in tenure and promotion decision decisions; in the shaping of the curriculums, graduate and undergraduate; in the allocation of resources to undergraduate and graduate instruction respectively," reflected such broader trends.<sup>12</sup>

By 1965, the Department moved from the western perimeter of the campus to its eastern edge, along Bailey Avenue, in one of the many "temporary" structures that were dotting the campus.<sup>13</sup> "Annex B" lacked the character of the previous locations. Its cinderblock walls and resonant metal roof contrasted with the relative solidity and informality of Winspear. As would be expected, the temporary buildings lacked any sort of charm. A senior colleague vividly recalled painters spending many days at work, the concrete block walls absorbing untold gallons of paint, until they took on any color at all. Individual faculty offices could be accessed from the single main corridor, not from creaking staircases. No informal meeting place existed, however, although Department members would regularly decamp for lunch at neighboring taverns.<sup>14</sup> As in the Winspear Avenue era, faculty members could also dine at the Faculty Club,<sup>15</sup> located adjacent to the then-Student Union. Another colleague's fondest memory of Annex B was watching a senior faculty member wander its halls, asking how the Department could spend all its money before the end of the fiscal year – perhaps the last time that occurred, he noted.

For a brief period, facilities were once again shared with a previous cohabiter. The rapid growth of the Department of English – which reached its apogee in national reputation and numbers in the late 1960s and early 1970s – required additional space for it as well. It joined Political Science in Annex B. Marty Plax, a former graduate student who became an instructor, commented that his office was next to Jack Barth, the noted author of *Giles Goat Boy*, *End of the Road*, *The Floating Opera* and other novels. Plax also reported having "fun memories of conversations with Leslie Fiedler," the even more renowned author of *Freaks, Love and Death in the American Novel*, *Being Busted* (which recounted his run-in with Buffalo police, suspicious since Professor Fielder was faculty adviser to a legalize marijuana group), and *Fiedler on the Roof*, among many others. The well-publicized arrest occurred Monday, May 1, 1967.<sup>16</sup>

The next relocation took faculty members of Political Science to what then seemed like the swamplands of Siberia.<sup>17</sup> Ridge Lea Road had a typical Buffalo misnomer, since it ran

through flat, wet territory barely suitable for major construction. 4238 Ridge Lea housed the Department from fall 1967 to summer 1978.<sup>18</sup> The move provided a significant improvement from the temporary on-campus building. Constructed as part of a significant office park adjacent to the I-290, Ridge Lea was a major private capital project, whose investors reaped an immediate, lucrative return from UB's space needs. Charm of setting and quality of architecture were certainly not its selling points, however. Leasing a few structures, imperfect as they were, provided SUNY and UB a necessary breathing space until appropriate academic space could catch up with demand for it, given the inevitable lag between initial conceptualization of a new building, preparation of detailed blueprints, putting out for bids, construction and the like.

The effects on the Department can kindly be described as 'mixed.' Being surrounded by a superhighway, parking lots and semi-swamp intensified a kind of 'outpost mentality.' On the positive side, the Department was in a sense pioneering both in the discipline and in the University: Political Science could metaphorically 'prove' its newness and vigor through its location. On the negative side, it remained isolated from many other Departments, albeit temporarily. And, compared with the experience of later years, parking was never a problem, although students legitimately grumbled about the difficulties of getting to classes when they were forced to move between campuses by bus.

To a certain extent, this isolation from the center of campus life reinforced the Department's unity, as just suggested. It also facilitated ties with related entities within the Faculty of Social Sciences, such as Sociology.<sup>19</sup> Neighbors included the Department of Psychology and the University's computing facilities. Robert Danziger – formerly associated with the Oxford Internet Institute – noted that "we were also very close to really excellent computational facilities that enabled a set of us to be closely connected with the use of computing in support of our research. I think we were 2-3 minutes from the mainframe computers. Looking back, I think that was a very useful accident that helped enhance my own training at SUNY." Jim Hottois, who went on to become president of Palo Verde College in Blythe, California after previous stints at Eastern Oregon University and Lewis and Clark State College, as well as teaching positions elsewhere, also commented on the Department's hesitant entry into the computer age. The initiative, not surprisingly, came from John Wahlke, a leader in early application of quantitative analysis techniques to Political Science. As Hottois wrote to the author,

I recall Macridis taking home the Hollerith cards for some project he and Wahlke were working on so that he could "get a feel for the data." Those old houses were really a metaphor for what was happening within the discipline of Political Science then. I remember [Wahlke] wandering the halls looking for ways to spend all the money... he bought two electronic calculators. They were about the size of a small microwave oven. We got really fancy versions. There was a big button on one side that automatically calculated a square root. That was a boon to graduate students who were doing statistics.

The move [to Ridge Lea] also coincided with a major upgrade in computing facilities at UB. The new computer at Ridge Lea was a Control Data Corporation

(CDC) 6400. It was a huge step forward in computing over the IBM 7044 at the old campus.<sup>20</sup>

Steve Peterson, who (along with Al Somit) became a leader in the sub-speciality of biopolitics,<sup>21</sup> lauded the informal way in which the Department's high calibre faculty and students, ample State funding, and visionary leadership had measurable positive effect:

The association (of senior faculty) with high quality graduate students was definitely positive; we would sit around (as graduate students do) talking extensively about politics over lunch (how could I forget munching on what was called the "Interimburger" in Ridge Lea's cafeteria!) but also about political science. These informal discussions added to the classroom work. I thought that students were able to work pretty closely with nationally recognized figures in the discipline (I thought that it was a trip to have pretty good working relationships with [Kenneth] Vines, [Roberta] Sigel, and [Al] Somit, for example). The coursework was rigorous and added a great deal to my knowledge of the discipline.

Another PhD recipient recalled that she had her office in Psychology, which helped lead to her own career as a research specialist.

As just indicated, Ridge Lea lacked the amenities of being located near suitable restaurants, at least at that time. No longer could faculty members walk for a pleasant on- or off-campus lunch at which beer or the like could be purchased.<sup>22</sup> On the other hand, limited cafeteria service, with food of indifferent quality at best, was available at Ridge Lea. Steve Peterson commented on the disadvantages of 4238 thus:

The physical isolation on the Ridge Lea campus and the limited library facilities were not great. However, shuttle buses (or personal cars) were available to tap into the advantages of the Main Street Campus... Ridge Lea wasn't great. The political science space was such that graduate student offices were scattered all over campus - including in the Psychology and Anthropology buildings (if memory serves). It wasn't a huge issue, but I do recall thinking about the less than optimal space situation. The library, as noted before, served adequately, but it wasn't the same as wandering through the old Lockwood Library. Access to the computer center was fine (although I am glad that we are beyond punch cards!). Overall, even though it wasn't ideal, I enjoyed my time at Ridge Lea, and it did the job.<sup>23</sup>

Ted Carmines, one of the most distinguished 'Americanists' in the profession in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century, also observed how the isolated, temporary nature of Ridge Lea facilitated interaction. '[It] was a makeshift campus in many ways, but something was gained, since lack of space promoted interaction.'<sup>24</sup>

The most 'solid' move – that is to say, from a converted family residence or avowedly short-term structure – came in January 1975, when the 27 members of the Department pulled

up stakes, venturing onto the new North Campus. Prior to that time, only two completed structures could be found on the 1200-acre tract, the law school (O'Brian Hall) and the Governors residential complex.<sup>25</sup> The remaining 99+ percent was a trackless sea of mud, where bulldozers had worked for nearly two years and continued to operate, to make the floodplain buildable.<sup>26</sup> In short, very few classrooms, dormitories, recreation or dining areas or other usual amenities of campus life existed. The Amherst campus was at that time a muddy wasteland, yet also an indication of the grandiose plans for UB's expansion as a whole. Other structures were planned or rising, for, despite the overall fiscal crisis of the State, bond-financed funds from the Dormitory Authority and the State University Construction Fund continued to flow into construction. (Maintenance was another matter, however, as years passed and upkeep fell well below recommended levels.)

Rent for buildings on the Ridge Lea Campus had chewed up a fair amount of UB's budget, posing a significant financial constraint.<sup>27</sup> It was cheaper to build anew on the Amherst campus, or to occupy empty University-owned space, than to continue leasing property. Social Sciences programs were to be concentrated on the new Amherst site.<sup>28</sup> The question was, "Where?" The first buildings constructed on the North Campus were the Law School (O'Brian Hall) and Governors Residence Halls (utilizing an I.M. Pei design previously used at Fredonia).<sup>29</sup> Both officially opened in 1973, although the Law School lacked seats in its initial weeks. (A fire had destroyed the manufacturer's plant, including all the chairs intended for O'Brian.)

Political Science was one of the close to a dozen units selected for the honor [?] of moving onto the Amherst campus, with the move itself occurring in early 1975.<sup>30</sup> The transfer ended links with other Social Science units that existed on Ridge Lea Road. The Department became a guinea pig for sorts for an interesting sociological experiment, mingling academic units and student living space. Architecturally the most striking building on the Amherst campus was and remains the 'Emerald City,' as students quickly dubbed the Ellicott Complex. Its residential quads<sup>31</sup> could not attract a sufficient number of undergraduates to fill its spaces. They had good reason. Courses remained scattered among the far-from-complete North Campus, Ridge Lea and the South Campus/Main Street campuses. Bus connections were difficult to make, especially given the 10-minute gap between classes. As already noted, it made administrative and financial sense to move out of rented structures as quickly as possible, once SUNY-controlled space became available. The Ellicott Complex had been designed in the late 1960s, with classrooms and departmental space intended for the various residential-cum-academic "colleges." These differed from regular academic departments, although the overwhelming majority of their faculty would come from standard academic units.<sup>32</sup> The point is that space was available, the overwhelming majority rooms intended for eventual use as dormitories, a small number desirable offices, many with views of Lake Lasalle.

Undergraduates isolated in Ellicott did not like where they had been placed, given the absence of any attractive student amenities. Nor did faculty members like the space they were allocated. The physical layouts of Ellicott's bedrooms contrasted mightily with Ridge Lea's offices: the latter had been designed for business purposes, the former as dorms, early-1970s style. In addition, no air-conditioning existed outside the classroom core at Ellicott. No wonder that life in Spaulding Quad, one of the six in the overall megastructure, proved far from satisfactory. As Chairman Don Rosenthal complained in his 1978/79 Annual Report, the first written after the Department moved into the Ellicott Complex,

There are warm days in the Fall or Spring when the heat is intolerable, especially for the secretarial staff which cannot escape elsewhere, and when rock music from adjoining buildings makes concentration on work impossible. No one in the University seems to give a damn about these problems. Since the University sometimes seems to be more concerned about the beds than the heads they can fill, we have regularly found ourselves in a Kafkaesque situation in trying to cope with these irritations.

Another irritation came from the tobacco-accepting culture of those days. Many faculty members smoked, with pipes favored by Glenn Snyder and Gary Hoskin. Others disapproved vocally, both faculty and staff. Academic freedom prevailed, however, and the pipes remained part of their personas.<sup>33</sup>

Meanwhile, the Amherst campus gradually took on brick and concrete reality. Buildings along the academic spine were deliberately constructed with connecting corridors at the second floor and (less frequently) basement levels. This assured indoors access guaranteed a modicum of protection from winter cold, or precipitation at any season. Different structures arose east and west of O'Brian, which (as noted) housed the Law School.<sup>34</sup> Gradual fleshing out of the spine occurred. Political Science became one of the earliest occupants in the row of structures that increasingly stretched east and west from the center at O'Brian. Baldy Hall came first, the building having opened in the summer of 1975 immediately to the east of O'Brian.<sup>35</sup> The Department moved immediately into Baldy. At last, 'conventional' space existed: faculty offices were configured according to the State-mandated 120 square feet per office,<sup>36</sup> a greater choice of classrooms was possible as additional space came 'on line'; and, perhaps most important, a sense that at last the North Campus was becoming a reality boosted morale.

The next shift in offices occurred in 1986, from Baldy to near-by Park Hall. Air-conditioned animal laboratories for Psychology and various services occupied the basement, Philosophy the first floor, Psych the second and third, Sociology the fourth and History the fifth. Because of how the Park Hall space was configured and the size of the Department, Political Science was shoe-horned into its top two floors.<sup>37</sup> The location in Park Hall kept the Department adjacent to the Law School. It remains intellectually close for some members of the Department, and physically close for others, albeit now across a bone-chilling or sunbaked bridge rather than direct air-conditioned corridor.

The Department took advantage of opportunity, although at some cost. The move had to be hastily planned and executed. Only one week was allowed between announcement of the moving date and the actual move itself!

As former Chair Bill Mishler later wrote,

I do recall long faculty discussions about how to assign offices in a way that would be fair to all. I suggested an Oklahoma land rush process (all faculty line up in the parking lot and race to the claim the office they preferred). I think the older weaker faculty objected! The process turned out to be some sort of lottery, as best I recall, but one that was designed to let groups of faculty, who wanted

to be together, bid on offices as groups. I don't recall much else except that when the mover came to pick up my books, he knocked down a metal railing next to the loading dock and then couldn't maneuver his truck to get out of the loading area without driving across the lawn even as the grounds people were laying it.

I don't recall much more, except that only the animal labs in psych were air conditioned. Federal rules required it for rats but not professors. I also recall filling out some reporting form just before I left, I think for APSA, asking me to list faculty "broken down by sex." I recall answering that we didn't have any faculty who were broken down by sex, but alcohol was a different matter.<sup>38</sup>

The two secretaries had to share a single key, which opened all the offices, so that furniture could be put in the appropriate places.

As of this writing, the fifth floor of Park Hall continues to house the offices of both History and Political Science plus all their faculty and two-thirds of 'ours.' The remaining PSC members share the fourth floor, together with the entirety of Sociology.<sup>39</sup> Offices for funded graduate students can be found on both floors.

When Park Hall first opened, computer access remained highly restricted. Only a few fourth floor offices were hard-wired, those being the days before wireless transmission. As already noted, the building was constructed with restricted air conditioning. This did not arise from an energy-conscious campus administration, but by directive of the powerful Office of the Budget in the energy crunch days of high OPEC prices and New York State financial problems. As should be expected, complaints mounted. Plenty of cool air could be found in the basement, where Psychology's lab animals were housed, and where Federal mandates for ethical treatment of test animals applied. On sweltering days, however, secretaries and faculty members brought in fans, opened windows wide, or hoped for a break in the weather. Frigid winter days were no better, with wind often seeping around the metal frames.<sup>40</sup> Not until 1989 was central air conditioning installed.<sup>41</sup> The breaking point came when computers in the Psychology Department started to break down.<sup>42</sup>

What about the Department's location in the future? One set of suggestions involves uniting the sundered parts of Political Science in reconfigured space in Lockwood Library. With journals increasingly published electronically and back issues available through the Internet, storage needs have diminished. Budget reductions have also resulted in major reductions in the number of journals. Low demand books and documents have been relocated to a storage facility just off campus. Hence, why not utilize the square footage thereby liberated for other academic purposes? If the Law School should be relocated to the Main Street campus, as recommended in the 'UB2020 plan,' why shouldn't Political Science consider a move into O'Brian Hall, where faculty offices are 180 square feet in size rather than 120? Significant funding will be required, however, in addition to impetus from senior academic leaders and at least grudging acquiescence from the faculty. A 'Heart of the Campus' task force was established, whose membership included PSC professor Jim Campbell, but progress on implementing its plans remained liable to fiscal vagaries and shifting leadership priorities. Whether New York's periodic fiscal ups-and-downs will permit such reconfiguration in the next

decade remains very much open to question as of this writing. Political Science once again may be a candidate to move since the Department could be physically reunited for the first time in a quarter century or more. Only time and dollars and willingness will tell.

Buslet/Dept history/Facilities LATEST

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<sup>1</sup> The main building of the combined hospital and psychiatric, later retitled Hayes Hall, became the office of leading UB administrators, leading to many jokes about the advantages of housing presumptively somewhat deranged academic leaders there. The most recent authoritative analysis of UB's peripatetic nature was penned by the University's 13<sup>th</sup> President and a former Law School Dean and Provost. See William R. Greiner and Thomas Headrick, *Location, Location, Location: A Special History of the University of/at Buffalo* (Buffalo NY: Center for the Study of American Culture, 2007). This book takes the story of UB's successive sites from the University's inception up to 2005. Their basic assertion – that UB would have gained maximum benefit from acquiring additional property in the Main-Bailey area rather than in Amherst – may long be debated, but was resolved decades back.

Whatever the circumstances, acquiring the Main-Bailey property represented a huge step for UB, made possible eventually through a major fund-raising effort. The site cost \$54,500, but Erie County required that construction start within ten years, making such donations and capital campaigns essential. Generous gifts from thousands of citizens (\$5 million from 24,000 donors in 1920) and a few major givers made the purchase possible. (Grace Knox, widow of the dime store magnate Seymour H. Knox, Sr., made a series of gifts that, in 2010 dollars, approximated \$60 million.) See *Building UB—The Comprehensive Physical Plan* (Buffalo: University at Buffalo and Beyer, Blinder, Belle Architects & Planners LLP, 2010), p. 14.

<sup>2</sup> The site was obtained from Erie County in 1909. For additional information, see <http://library.buffalo.edu/archives/buildings/scintro.html>.

<sup>3</sup> Hayes Hall did not have its clock tower and chimes at that time; they were added in July 1928, a year after the renovation of the structure. <http://library.buffalo.edu/archives/building/hayes/html> and <http://www.buffalo.edu/buildings/building?id=hayes>.

<sup>4</sup> See <http://www.buffalo.edu/buildings/building?id=CROSBY>, consulted March 3, 2013.

<sup>5</sup> Interview with Professors John Lane and Robert Stern, Buffalo, April 24, 2008.

<sup>6</sup> The State University Construction Fund and the companion Dormitory Authority are highly centralized Albany operations, with the SUCF serving SUNY, and the Dormitory Authority taking on a variety of projects across the entire state not necessarily confined to the SUNY system – nor, for that matter, to dormitories. They repay the bonds they issue through tuition, room charges and other revenues. Capital appropriations operate within a lengthy time frame, with periodic updates. The vicissitudes of the annual appropriations process that figured so prominently in previous pages had only an indirect impact on issuance of bonds.

<sup>7</sup> Pictures of most previous and the current (mid-2014) office buildings can be found at [http://www.polsci.buffalo.edu/dept\\_history.shtml](http://www.polsci.buffalo.edu/dept_history.shtml) From top to bottom, they include Park Hall, 138 Winspear Avenue, 142 Winspear Avenue, Annex B on the Main-Bailey Campus and 4238 Ridge Lea Road. Not pictured is the appropriate quadrangle of the Ellicott Complex.

<sup>8</sup> More accurately 3.5, since Professor Karol Hulicka split his teaching time between History and Political Science.

<sup>9</sup> Interview with Professor John Lane and Robert Stern, April 24, 2008.

<sup>10</sup> This strong positive sense was doubtless accentuated by the Department's growth and manifest improvement in academic quality.

<sup>11</sup> As Professor Robert Stern commented on an earlier draft of this history,

That local parting of the ways, it might be noted, coincided with a movement taking place in the Political Science discipline more broadly, by which older disciplinary affinities that considered History and Law (at least in its constitution and public aspects) to be cognizant disciplines, were now being rivaled – and some influential voices would have had them largely displaced – by newer affinities, e.g. Psychology, Sociology, Economics, this both with respect to the subjects for scholarly study, and with the methods and tools employed to investigate them. By the early 1960s the 'behavioral revolution' in American political science was near full surge; the drive toward quantification was impacting both faculty research and graduate level instruction – the



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latter by way of front-loading the grad curriculum with regional courses in methodology and in the philosophy of science.

Handwritten letter to the author dated August 27, 2010.

<sup>12</sup> Handwritten letter to the author dated August 27, 2010.

<sup>13</sup> Most of these remained in use 40+ years later.

<sup>14</sup> Two of the favorites were Onetto's, at the northeast corner of Main and Bailey [as of 2008, the location of a Dunking Donuts] and Troidl's, in a now largely decayed part of the east side. Both were subsequently knocked down.

<sup>15</sup> Members of the Department bemoaned lack of access to the Faculty Club when the Department moved away from Main Street. It provided not only a pleasant setting for lunch, but also a place for major receptions. The author recalls attending a reception for new faculty in his initial weeks, hosted by Chancellor Clifford Furnas and his incongruously named wife Sparkle. They stood next to a pair of huge gilt oval mirrors, purportedly donated to the University by Millard Fillmore, UB's first chancellor. The absence of such a gathering space on the Amherst campus led to many efforts to resuscitate a faculty club of some sort. The closest started in 2009 as free weekly cheese and crackers, vegetables, soft drinks, and wine, in the Student Union.

<sup>16</sup> See *The Village Voice* May 4, 1967,

<http://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1299&dat=19670504&id=lwNOAAAIBAJ&sjid=KYwDAAAIBAJ&pg=5929,2218653>, visited August 8, 2014.

<sup>17</sup> One of the two Winspear homes was retained for a few years as [in the words of one doctoral candidate] as a 'ghetto for graduate students.'

<sup>18</sup> The move was negotiated with Myles Slatin, Dean of the soon-to-be dissolved College of Arts and Sciences. E-mail from Al Somit to the author, July 28, 2014. As of mid-2010, 4238 Ridge Lea housed office operations of Jense department stores. The entire complex is entitled "Amherst Commercial Park," with shifting businesses. Dates confirmed electronically by the UB Archives August 13, 2014.

<sup>19</sup> The College of Arts and Sciences had been broken into three entities prior to the arrival of President Meyerson. This fission was seen as necessary owing to the rapid expansion in the number of faculty. Meyerson elaborated on this division, proposing proposed a major reorganization, which attempted to overcome the traditional distinctions between 'academic' and 'professional' education through linking units from both into broader Faculties. Political Science fell into the 'Faculty of Social Science and Administration,' the relevant Arts and Sciences departments being combined with the Schools of Business Administration and of Social Welfare. (Meyerson also hoped to include the Schools of both Education and Law, but these did not pan out. See earlier in this history.) Other examples of Meyerson-named Faculties included Arts and Letters; Natural Sciences and Mathematics; Engineering and Applied Sciences; Law and Jurisprudence – you get the idea.

<sup>20</sup> Telephone discussion between Professor James Hottois and the author July 12, 2010.

<sup>21</sup> He and Somit published a 'preliminary history on the subject in 1979, and then published a series of other studies.

<sup>22</sup> In other words, with beer if desired.

<sup>23</sup> Personal communication from Dean Peterson, December 30, 2007.

<sup>24</sup> Telephone interview with Professor Ted Carmines, March 31, 2008.

<sup>25</sup> The design for Governors was chosen for a simple reason: the State University Construction Fund had already built the identical I.M. Pei structure at Fredonia, making construction quicker and cheaper. The law school was planned as the center of the academic core, a decision that angered many if not most members of the local bar and several on the faculty. See William R. Greiner and Thomas E. Headrick, *Location, Location, Location: A Special History of the University of/at Buffalo* (Buffalo NY: Center for Studies in American Culture, 2007), p. 84; quoted elsewhere in this history.

<sup>26</sup> Among other bits of trivia, Bizer Creek had to be relocated to the western edge of the campus; two separate lakes were excavated to raise the overall elevation above the 100-year flood level; and additional fill was taken from the construction of the nearby I-290. Because Buffalo lies in a potential earthquake zone, all structures on the North Campus were built atop piles driven at least 100 feet into the clay to provide solid footing. Professor Don Rosenthal analyzed the policy issues involved in "Bargaining Analysis in Intergovernmental Relations", published in *Publius* 10, 3 (1980). As he pointed out in a note to the author, delicate urban-suburban issues surfaced in

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proposed extension of the new rapid transit line beyond its Main-Bailey terminus (the ‘South Campus’) to the Amherst Campus: ‘an equal effort by Amherst to halt the plan at the city border’ killed the idea. E-mail to the author, July 23, 2014.

<sup>27</sup> The near-bankruptcy of New York City in 1975 touched off one of the periodic financial crises that have bedeviled SUNY’s history and deeply influenced the Department’s reduction in faculty and staff positions since the early 1970s. Most of the turning points that Political Science experienced can be directly related to the level of public support, notably in sudden, unexpected changes in it – a huge surge in the mid- to late-1960s, declines and plateaus thereafter, with essentially no increases in the proportion of the SUNY budget funded directly from State appropriations.

<sup>28</sup> Discussion between the author and Robert J. Wagner, former UB Senior Vice President, December 10, 2010. Buildings for Social Sciences were easy to design and construct, relative to ‘wet’ sciences, engineering, health sciences or the like.

<sup>29</sup> For summary histories of the construction of each, see <http://www.buffalo.edu/buildings/building?id=obrian> and <http://www.buffalo.edu/buildings/building?id=governors>, consulted March 3, 2013.

<sup>30</sup> “The logistics of the move (assignment of offices etc.) were only handled by Holly McGranahan, our very valuable administrative assistant, and [Professor] Clark Murdock, who served as my deputy at that time and for that purpose.” Handwritten letter to the author from Professor Robert Stern dated August 27, 2010.

<sup>31</sup> Each ‘quad’ in fact contained varying mixtures of seven different structures, varying in height from three to ten floors. There are thirty buildings in toto, when the Millard Fillmore Academic Complex is added in. At the center of Ellicott and on the ground floors were Department and other University offices. Numerous classrooms, a food court, a short-lived pub that freshmen in particular appreciated, and the Katherine Cornell Theater counted among the other features. The architects knew little about winter conditions in Buffalo, however. Many rooms are projecting cubes, having been with constructed seven external walls – on the weather side of buildings! Heat in much of Ellicott is imbalanced and excessive. As a result, many undergraduates feel uncomfortably hot, so even in the midst of winter one can see scores if not hundreds of open windows.

<sup>32</sup> In Political Science, three faculty members became involved with various colleges. Professor ‘Chip’ Planck came to the Department in a unique joint appointment with College E, which was loosely oriented toward interdisciplinary, action-based social sciences. Professor Claude Welch became ‘Master’ of Rachel Carson College, which focused on interdisciplinary environmental matters. (Environmental issues became the *leit motiv* of Professor Les Milbrath’s final years. Discussion of his efforts appears elsewhere.) Finally, Professor Robert Stern handled a very delicate task:

As chair of the Faculty Senate sub-committee on the Colleges I found myself quite involved with some pretty contentious matters affecting their proper role and status concerning esp. their autonomy in the selection and structure of programs for credit, their definition of activities (other than those connected with classroom instruction for awarding credit, etc. After considerable and intense haggling over such matters, the Faculty Senate approval of [some] kind of charter for the colleges based upon what I distressingly believe was termed the ‘Stern Prospectus.’

(Handwritten letter from Professor Robert Stern dated August 27, 2010.)

<sup>33</sup> Professors Paul Diesing and Les Milbrath objected strongly to this habit, as did efficient secretary (and later Assistant to the Chair) Betty Balcom. Conversation with Professors Stephen Halpern, Charles Lamb and Robert Stern March 2, 2012.

<sup>34</sup> One of the more foolish ‘grand’ decisions came in reorienting the spine in a strict compass configuration. Skidmore Owings and Merrill, the original master planners, came up with the concept of the academic spine to deal with winter’s vicissitudes. They oriented the spine roughly south-south-west to north-north-east, to avoid exposure to prevailing winds. The ‘megastructure’ proposal drew strong criticism, however, despite its boldness and merits, largely because occupancy of any part of it would be delayed until a substantial portion had been completed. The revised plan by the firm of Sasaki, Dawson, Demay had the virtue of allowing new buildings to be constructed one-by-one, while maintaining the links among them. Their chief innovation came in eliminating the megastructure, while retaining the concept of a spine. While the law school remained at the center, newly-constructed buildings would be construed due north/south or east/west of it. With this reorientation, wind tunnel

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effects became marked, especially in front of ten-story Clemens Hall. Many falls and injuries occur each winter in front of it, due to the velocity of the wind. An excellent discussion of decision-making about the Amherst Campus can be found in William R. Greiner and Thomas E. Headrick, *Location, Location, Location: A Special History of the University of/at Buffalo* (Buffalo NY: Center for the Study of American Culture, 2007).

<sup>35</sup> <http://library.buffalo.edu/archives/building/hayes/html>. For history of the building, see <http://www.buffalo.edu/buildings/building?id=BALDY>. Baldy Hall contains 186,298 square feet, and was constructed at a cost of \$6,811,000.

<sup>36</sup> Therein lies an irony. Had Political Science chosen (as did Economics) to move into O’Brian, which it could have done, Department faculty would have benefited from offices 50% larger than the norm. The space benefit resulted from some legerdemain by a key faculty member. According to a former Dean of the Law School,

[the] faculty liaison with the architects and State Construction Fund ... argued persuasively and successfully that faculty, like practicing lawyers, worked in their offices because they needed to be close to the library to consult statutes, codes and cases, and as a result, that students, with faculty encouragement, frequently met with faculty after classes and dropped in at other times as well. Thus the offices had to be large enough to accommodate meetings with small groups of students. I believe he also stressed, probably without much curricular proof, that legal education was incorporating more small seminar/tutorial type teaching, and as office/seminars, the Fund rules allowed more square footage. To accomplish this architecturally was easy; the hallways were moved toward the Library and the library space reduced. I also believe that [the faculty liaison] had been the Librarian at one time and was chair of the Library Committee, so he could fend off any shouts of outrage from the library folk.

E-mail to the author from Thomas Headrick, July 22, 2014.

Had the Department chosen to be housed in O’Brian, there would have been more space for most of us to display unread books and strewn course notes or manuscripts... The reasons why Political Science passed on this opportunity remain unknown, however. An expectation of continued growth may have been one. Also, according to Professor Robert Stern, few members of the Department were interested in pursuing links with the Law School at this point. “A further irony may be that with very few faculty interested in or seeing any advantage in such propinquity, the Department later focused there, in the development of a JD/PhD program connected to the Baldy Center and through faculty participation in various Center activities, its most prominent and enduring interdisciplinary enterprise.” (Handwritten letter from Professor Robert Stern dated August 27, 2010).

<sup>37</sup> The structure bears an honored name in the University’s academic history. Julian Park served as Professor of History and as first Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1919 to 1954. His analyses, ‘The evolution of a college a century of higher education in Buffalo’ [1938] and ‘A History of the University of Buffalo’ [1917] have served subsequent historians well. Park’s portrait hangs in the History Department, together with those of Professors Julius Pratt, John Horton, Bob Lively and other luminaries.

<sup>38</sup> E-mail from Professor Bill Mishler to the author, July 18, 2014.

<sup>39</sup> Philosophy and Psychology fill out the remainder of Park Hall, in addition to a small number of classrooms.

<sup>40</sup> Then UB President Steve Sample even proposed removing windows in Jacobs over a weekend, to install individual fixtures. He was dissuaded from this by a senior administrative official. Interview with Robert J. Wagner, Senior Adviser to the President, July 26, 2011.

<sup>41</sup> E-mail from Mike Dupre, Assistant Vice President for Facilities Planning, to the author, August 1, 2011.

<sup>42</sup> Personal conversation with Jan Hastrup, Professor of Psychology, September 30, 2014. UB, like modern large-scale institutions at that time, were transitioning from a few large mainframe computers to distributed computing.