

THE CENTERPIECE

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- Political science professor **Michael G. Miller's** book, Subsidizing Democracy: How Public Funding Changes Elections and How It Can Work in the Future, will be published by Cornell University Press in November. Miller draws on survey data from more than 1,000 candidates, interviews, and two decades of election data to show how public election financing affects campaigns for state offices. He finds that when candidates are publicly funded, they interact more with other candidates and with voters and boost voter participation. Cornell University Press calls Subsidizing Democracy "a revealing book that will change the way we think about campaign funding." Miller holds a part-time research appointment in the Center for State Policy and Leadership.
- Providing a legal historian's perspective, **Gwen Jordan**, assistant professor of legal studies, participated August 22 in Chicago on a panel discussion sponsored by the Illinois State Bar Association and the 7th Circuit Bar Association to celebrate the anniversary of a historically significant conference held in 1893, where women lawyers gathered to advance their role in a male-dominated profession. The conference occurred during the Columbian World Exposition in Chicago. On the panel with Jordan were U.S. 7th Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Ann Claire Williams, Illinois Supreme Court Justice Rita Garman, and Nina Appel, Dean Emerita of Loyola University School of Law.
- Two new books are in the works from assistant editors with the Papers of Abraham Lincoln. **Ed Bradley**, Ph.D., who works in the Papers Washington, DC office, has a contract with Texas A & M Press for a book entitled, We Never Retreat: The Texas Filibustering Era, 1771-1822. Based on Bradley's dissertation completed at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, the book explores American adventuring into Spanish Texas during what is referred to as the Early National era. Biographical essays on Florida's governors from Andrew Jackson to the present are the subject of a book being edited by **Boyd Murphee**, Ph.D., in Springfield, and colleague Robert Taylor. The Governors of Florida: Essays on Florida's Chief Executives from Jackson to Scott is being published by The University Press of Florida.
- WUIS' **Bill Wheelhouse** had his Harvest Public Media story on the fight over federal subsidies for the sugar industry picked up by National Public Radio's midday news program, Here and Now, in late July. Harvest Public Media is a Midwest-based network of public media organizations that cover food and agriculture issues. The fight, Wheelhouse observed, is between the sugar industry, which claims the subsidies help them stay in business, and businesses that use sugar in their products, which argue that

subsidies artificially inflate the prices they have to pay for sugar. The loss of the subsidies would also affect the corn industry, which, needless to say is big in Illinois, since lower sugar prices would likely lead to a drop in corn sweetener prices, as well.

- An article by **Hinda Seif**, Ph.D., associate professor of Women's Studies and Anthropology, will be published by the peer-reviewed Journal of Language and Sexuality in November. "Coming Out of the Shadows" and "Undocuqueer": Undocumented Immigrants Transforming Sexuality Discourse and Activism" is based on Seif's observations of Chicago's Immigrant Youth Justice League, interviews, and website analysis from 2012-2013, which was supported by a grant from the Center for State Policy and Leadership. Seif describes how gay and lesbian language and strategies have been adapted by the undocumented youth movement.
- The UIS College of Public Affairs and Administration has a new dean. **J. Mark Wrighton**, Ph.D., is a political scientist with a specialty in American government and politics. Previously, Wrighton served as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the College of Arts and Letters at the University of Southern Mississippi, and before that was Chair of the Department of Political Science at Millikin University in Decatur. In 2004-2005, Wrighton was an American Political Science Association Congressional Fellow with the U.S. House Republican Policy Committee. Wrighton succeeds Pinky Wassenberg, who has assumed the position of Director of the College's Doctor of Public Administration program and will remain a member of the Advisory Board of the Center for State Policy and Leadership.
- **David Racine**, Ph.D., has been appointed Executive Director of the Center for State Policy and Leadership, effective September 16, 2013, pending University of Illinois Board of Trustees approval. He has served as interim executive director of the Center since 2010. Dr. Racine came to UIS in 2007 through a successful national search for a new director of the Institute for Legal, Legislative, and Policy Studies, a unit within the Center. He earned his doctorate from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in 2001. His areas of expertise and research include evidence-based social policy, program evaluation, innovation dissemination, volunteerism, and organizational design and management. He has held a number of administrative leadership, political, consulting, and project management positions, accumulating more than 35 years of experience working with public policy, public affairs research, and program development in a variety of public and private sector organizations. In announcing his appointment, UIS Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost Dr. Lynn Pardie said: "David's expertise and experience make him an ideal person to lead the Center for State Policy and Leadership, and I am delighted that he has accepted the position. I know that the Center will continue to advance under his leadership."

David P. Racine, Ph.D.

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