Updates for the week of January 11, 2010

STUDENTS TALK BACK Brown Bag Lunch Series
Obama One Year Later: What Have We Learned?

2010 Sacramento Legislative Seminar
Sun., Feb. 28th — Tues., March 2nd
Application deadline is Friday, February 5th

The Jesse M. Unruh Institute invites all undergraduates to apply for the 2010 Sacramento Legislative Seminar. Sponsored by the Unruh Institute in conjunction with several other California colleges and universities, the Sacramento Seminar is designed to provide students with the opportunity to meet the executive and legislative leaders who shape the laws and policies of the state. Seminar panels include members of the Senate and the Assembly, lobbyists, reporters, and legislative and executive branch staff.

The program is open to undergraduates with a GPA of 3.0 or higher who have a demonstrated interest in politics, political parties and campaigns, interest groups, political media and more. Internships are available in Los Angeles, Sacramento, Washington D.C., and other cities throughout the U.S.

Here are just a few of the opportunities currently being advertised through the Unruh Institute — many more are available:

- Afghan Women’s Mission
- Alliance for Children’s Rights
- Barbara Boxer 2010
- Coalition for Clean Air
- Food & Water Watch
- Human Rights Watch
- League of Women Voters
- Next Aid
- Relief International
- A.N.S.W.E.R—LA
- CA Republican Party
- Progressive Strategy Partners
- U.S. Census
- Apartment Assn. of Greater LA
- Arthritis Foundation
- CalPIRG
- Equality California
- Gen-Next
- LA County Medical Association
- Mayor of Los Angeles
- Red Cross of Los Angeles
- Town Hall Los Angeles
- California Film Commission
- Central American Resource Ctr.
- Partnership for LA Schools
- S.C.O.P.E.

For more information about POSC 395 and other spring or summer internship opportunities/programs, stop by the Unruh Institute in VKC 263 or email the Internship Coordinator at yutani@usc.edu.

Thinking about an internship for Spring or Summer? Interested in government, politics, policy or public service?

POSC 395 is expected to be full for the Spring 2010 semester, so sign up early!!!
Registration deadline is Friday, January 29th.

Participating in a political internship can help you gain a competitive edge in today’s job market, plus it provides practical real-world experience, helps build invaluable relationships with potential employers, and can help you earn college credit by taking POSC 395. With POSC 395, you may be able to earn between 2 and 8 credits for your major/minor course requirements.

Internship placements are available with elected officials, political consultants, non-governmental organizations, state, local and federal government agencies, environmental organizations, political parties and campaigns, interest groups, political media and more. Internships are available in Los Angeles, Sacramento, Washington D.C., and other cities throughout the U.S.

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Click here for a link to the 2010 application form.
One year following President Obama's historic inauguration, many questions remain about his first term in office. While some argue that his administration had its successes - from the stimulus plan, to the commitment of 30,000+ troops to Afghanistan, to the likely passage of the first comprehensive health care bill in fifty years - others are disappointed with Obama's performance. Among the unfilled promises and broken campaign pledges are immigration reform, cap-and-trade, and the financial system regulatory overhaul. All of these issues feature a potential downside for President Obama as he comes under increased criticism for alienating his base of liberal supporters over the past 12 months, and for his receipt of the Nobel Peace Prize. While his inauguration a year ago seemed to herald a new era for American politics, many remain frustrated with the country's economic situation and concerns over Obama's "big government" policies. With the 2010 midterm elections less than a year away, it now begs the question: After one historic year, what will the next 3 look like?

Featuring off-campus experts and student representatives from the USC College Democrats and the USC College Republicans. Moderated by a representative of The Daily Trojan; and Dan Schnur, Director of the USC Unruh Institute of Politics.

STUDENTS TALK BACK is a weekly lunch series giving USC students the opportunity to discuss national and state politics with professional experts from the worlds of campaigns, government, policy and journalism. Every Wednesday, we'll discuss one issue that dominates political debate in Washington and Sacramento. Students will participate as panelists and analysts, and our guest experts will answer questions and respond to comments from those in attendance. The Brown Bag lunch series is co-sponsored by the Unruh Institute, the Department of Political Science, The Daily Trojan, Political Student Assembly, College Democrats and College Republicans.