



Politics professor's first book to be published in April

Professor's book explores how globalization affects labor unions.

TIFFANY ADAMS
Staff Reporter

A Meredith professor's book on the global trends among labor unions will stock book shelves by the end of this month.

The book, *Going Global: Unions and Globalization in the United States, Sweden and Germany*, is Dr. James Piazza's first published book.

The assistant politics professor said *Going Global* is based on his dissertation that was written in 1999.

Piazza wanted to pursue publication because he felt that the book should have more of an audience than the dissertation committee.

However, the endeavor was a combination of personal curiosity and professional reasons.

In *Going Global*, Piazza explores how globalization--the term used to describe the expansion of industries overseas in order to find cheaper and more compliant labor--affects labor unions in three industrialized countries.

He compares metalworking and textiles unions in the United States, Sweden and Germany.

Piazza said that the traditional expectation of

many people is that globalization adversely affects unions because companies can move jobs overseas and avoid dealing with resistance from unions.

However, through his comparative study, Piazza found that while globalization has hurt American unions, it has not affected German unions as much.

His book attempts to resolve why this is true.

Piazza asserts that "this is because of the unique system of German industrial relations, which allows unions to negotiate the changes associated with globalization."

Unions in the United States are characteristically weak and declining, while unions in

Sweden are powerful because of their close link with the Social Democratic Workers Party. German unions are moderately sized, strong and politically independent.

Piazza said he does not plan to use this book in any of his classes because it is far too advanced for undergraduate study.

He does feel, however, that the book could be used in graduate level study.

Going Global will be of particular interest to political

scientists and those interested in international business and economics.

Piazza said that the experience of writing a book has been "a difficult but rewarding process."

"It is a daunting experience because a book seems like such a huge task, and it was

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Registrar gets new computer program to make registering easier

Automated waiting lists will be available for preregistration.

CHRISTINA HOLDER
Editor in Chief

It's registration season, and for many students at Meredith, that means camping outside the Registrar's Office in a line that seems longer than the one at the polls on election day.

Imagine forgoing the line, or better yet, imagine registering for courses from a faculty adviser's computer.

That is the future of the Registrar's Office through a computer program it will be using for the first time during preregistration this month.

The College has owned the Windows-based program called Datatel for several years but has not implemented it in the Registrar's Office until now.

The first office to use the

Datatel system was the Accounting office a few years ago. Admissions went live with the program just last year. And now it's the Registrar's turn.

The program boasts features such as a computerized waiting list for courses that are closed, an automatic degree-auditing function and an instant messaging system that lets the computer-user know if a student has enough prerequisite courses to enroll in a certain course.

During preregistration this month, however, the waiting list is the only feature that will be used in the Registrar's Office.

According to Registrar Sue Todd, the other features will be implemented over the next few years.

Todd said that implementing

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Mass comm students visit Big Apple over break, explore careers

Students talk to professionals in the communications field in NYC.

KASEY OVERTON
Staff Writer

The hustle and bustle of New York City posed no threat for Mass Communication majors.

Over Easter weekend, Meredith students from the Mass Communication department to New York City to talk to professionals in the communications field.

The Meredith College Video Club sponsored the trip.

When the 20 students arrived in the "City That Never Sleeps," their first stop was 1010 WINS, the top AM radio station in New York City.

They met the News Director for the station, and he gave them advice about the broadcasting industry.

While taking a tour of the radio station, the students had the chance to talk to the entertainment reporter who had just gotten back from the Oscars.

The group also attended a theater class and participated in acting exercises. While in the class, they met a dancer/singer who was in the Broadway play, *Aida*, written by Sir Elton John and Tim Rice.

Since going to the play was part of the itinerary, the actor, Michael Serapiglin, told them what it was like to be a performer on Broadway.

"It felt like we had a friend that was in the show," said sophomore Meredith Collier.

The students also toured the Museum of Television and

Radio. The museum is set up in many different screening rooms, which play old episodes of favorite TV shows.

There is also a library in the museum holding old videos and radio shows that visitors can watch and listen to.

Sophomore Amanda Denny said the trip was worthwhile because "it helped us realize where we want to go in communications."

"[We] went to a museum...*Aida* and a radio station, so we got to see what goes on behind the scenes.