

V. VISITORS

In 1984, **Curtis Cook** joined the Political Science Department at Colorado College as a Visiting Professor in International Relations. It turned out to be quite a lengthy visit, lasting 18 years until 2002 when Professor Cook voluntarily reduced his teaching load and described himself as “retired.”

It was Professor Cook’s second round of full-time college teaching. He was a member of the first class of cadets to attend the newly-opened Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. While a cadet, Cook attended one of Air Force’s first football games, played against Colorado College at Washburn Field. Cook graduated from the Academy in 1959 and pursued a career as an Air Force officer.

After a number of assignments, including one at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., Curtis Cook was sent to Johns Hopkins University by the Air Force to get a Ph.D. in Political Science. He spent the remainder of his military career teaching at the Air Force Academy. He retired in 1982 as Chairman of the Political Science Department at the Academy.

Early in 1983, Curtis Cook began his “second career” by teaching Public Policy, with an emphasis on National Security policy, at Colorado College. He soon was working full time, mainly teaching classes in International Relations. Professor Cook took on many chores not usually expected of a “visiting” professor,

such as advising the Student Honor Council, which administered the Honor System at Colorado College, and managing the Lopat Lecture, which brought outstanding United States political figures to speak on campus. When the Political Science Department received a grant to further North American Studies at the College, Curtis Cook served as Director of the program and taught courses concerned with the government and politics of Canada.

By the time Curtis Cook “retired” from teaching at Colorado College in 2002, he had made his position so essential to the Political Science Department that he had to be replaced with a tenure-track appointment. **John Gould**, a graduate of Williams College with a Ph.D. from Columbia University, was hired as Cook’s successor. John Gould taught International Political Economy courses, a subject rapidly increasing in popularity with the students at Colorado College.

John Gould’s appointment raised the number of International-Comparative Government slots in the Political Science Department to five (Lee, Hendrickson, Lindau, Fennell, and Gould).

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Another frequent visitor to the teaching ranks of the Political Science Department was **Solomon Nkiwane**, who taught courses in Africa with particular emphasis on southern Africa. Professor Nkiwane was a citizen of Zimbabwe. He

graduated from Colorado College with a Political Science major in 1964 and went on to get a Ph.D. at McGill University in Montreal, Canada. As the political situation destabilized in Zimbabwe throughout the 1990s, Solomon Nkiwane was willing to spend increasing amounts of time teaching at Colorado College. He taught courses on apartheid, the extreme form of racial segregation that was practiced in South Africa until the 1990s.

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The Block Plan offered the opportunity to have visitors teach at Colorado College for only one Block, a period of just three-and-one-half weeks. A number of successful professionals were willing to take time off from their jobs to teach a One-Block course in their specialty for the Political Science Department. These “One-Block Visitors,” as they were called, were used to replace regular faculty when on sabbatical and to help reduce the teaching load on the regular members of the Department. Many were scholars at other academic institutions, and quite a number were working journalists and attorneys, and one was a judge.

Some of the outstanding One-Block Visitors over the years included *New York Times* reporter David Rosenbaum; European scholar Jean Blondel; and Bruce Finley, the son of David Finley, who was a foreign correspondent for the *Denver Post*.