



UNIVERSITY OF
DENVER
SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION
November 18, 2004

Brian Lamb
Founder and CEO

Steve Scully
Senior Executive Producer

C-SPAN
400 North Capitol Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

Dear Brian and Steve,

There is no one who is a better friend to the University of Denver than both of you! Quite often, I find myself trying to figure out how DU and our students could be so fortunate!

So once again, I want to thank both of you—this time for hosting our students at the Republican National Convention in New York City on September 2nd. It was the most extraordinary experience our students have ever had—and I was as thrilled as they were.

It was such an honor to be there with both of you and to watch and meet the people you brought over to interact with the students. The students are still talking about all the people they met—in fact, they have not been shy about “bragging” about it.

Thank you for making the *Behind-the-Scenes Look at Washington, D.C.* an absolutely extraordinary experience. As I have told all of our hosts, I am not exaggerating when I tell you that *every* student in this Seminar has told me that the week in Washington, D.C. was a life-changing experience!

Since our students recently completed their research papers, as well as their class journals which provided the opportunity for them to reflect on their experiences and the impact that both of you and the other hosts had on them, their words can speak for themselves. Attached with this letter are representative quotes taken from the journals of some of the students.

Again, thank you both for your support of this program, especially during the challenge of an election year! If there is anything I can ever do for you or C-SPAN, please do not hesitate to ask.

Best regards,

School of Communication

Brian,
Hope all is going
very well.
Take care.

Mass Communications &
Journalism Studies

Denver, CO 80208

<http://soc.du.edu>

**Representative Quotes from University of Denver Students
Session at the Republican National Convention in New York City
With Brian Lamb and Steve Scully
*September 2, 2004***

“I feel extremely honored to have had the opportunity to attend the Republican National Convention on such an up close and personal level. I was literally breathless as I walked into Madison Square Garden. I felt as if I was instantaneously consumed by the massiveness of it all. The money and man hours spent on just one week made me realize the importance of being educated and digging beneath the “show” of politics. Knowing the real issues gives us, as citizens, the key to unlocking the door of propaganda that is portrayed by both sides as a means to “swing” the vote. As such, I have decided that our country is in need of young people who are avid in their quest to reveal these truths of politics to all people. Although I am not quite sure where that will lead me, I believe that part of my purpose in life is to get involved in the political process and do my best to help shape the future of our country.”

██████████ *University of Denver Senior*

“I will be forever grateful to Brian Lamb and Steve Scully for the inside look at the Republican National Convention and its coverage. To be at the convention as the world press corps prepared for its climax, I sincerely felt that I was touching a significant moment in our history. Was I witnessing a turning point in America’s history or only a turning point in my own life?”

██████████ *University of Denver Senior*

“Being able to go to the Republican National Convention was just incredible. The day comes back to me like I’m looking into a kaleidoscope.”

██████████ *University of Denver Junior*

“The Republican National Convention was an experience of a lifetime.”

██████████ *University of Denver Senior*

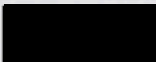
“Brian Lamb... what a guy! He is probably the most intelligent and instantly genuine man I have ever met. He turned what could have made millions into a non-partisan, non-profit organization because of his beliefs. And still, he is humble and kind. The most impressive thing about him is probably his curiosity. Here’s a man I’ve seen on C-SPAN listening to caller after caller without interjecting a thing. And yet, he’s seen and understands more about the political process, and the way it relates to the media, than pretty much anyone else. Unbelievable!”

██████████ *University of Denver Senior*


"The Republican National Convention was a highlight of my life. I think even if I was a Democrat, I would have liked it just as much. Thank you so much for allowing us to partake in a once-in-a-lifetime event. I will surely remember forever the atmosphere of Madison Square Garden on that Thursday. Also, I'm taking Steve Scully's class this Fall Quarter, and it is by far my favorite class. Steve, thank you for allowing our school to have access to such influential people. And thank you also for the effort and time that you put into the class.

 *University of Denver Sophomore*

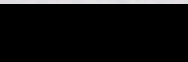
"When I saw Steve Scully, I was immediately happy. He's tall, slender, soft-spoken, honest and just an all-around impressive guy."

 *University of Denver Senior*

"I am still so impressed with the time that Steve Scully and Brian Lamb took to speak with us and answer our questions, during one of the biggest events of the year. I am so fortunate to have had this experience."

 *University of Denver Junior*


"Attending the Republican National Convention was an amazing opportunity. An experience like this deeply affects you. Two memorable thoughts from this trip impressed me the most. Brian Lamb personally took the time to ask everyone why they were attending, and he shared that he was there to learn. He makes learning a priority and tries to learn new things every day, and he says he won't go to bed if he hasn't. This is something more of us should aspire to do."

 *University of Denver Junior*

"Beginning to reflect on this session is really hard. I can't even put into words the feelings I felt as we were on the floor of the Republican National Convention. It was such a treat and we were practically VIPs."

 *University of Denver Sophomore*

"When arriving in New York City, a rush of energy came over me. I knew that I was about to see part of one of the most historical political events that I would remember the rest of my life."

 *University of Denver Senior*

UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

DU students attend GOP convention

By Dave Brendsel

Sept. 14, 2004 — While most University of Denver students were gearing up for fall classes, 11 DU students spent part of their last week of summer at the Republican National Convention. They say they came away from the experience awed, inspired and eager to more deeply involve themselves in American political life.



The DU delegation gets a first-hand look at American politics in action at the 2004 Republican National Convention in New York's Madison Square Garden.

"I learned that as an American, I need to be more aware," says [redacted] a junior business major at DU's Women's College. "Americans need to participate in their political process."

Students enrolled in the four-credit interterm mass communications course—"A Behind-the-Scenes Look at Washington, D.C."—spent the week before Labor Day in New York and Washington, D.C., meeting with journalists, lobbyists, congressional staff members and other government officials. On the afternoon of Sept. 2, the students reveled in a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to tour the floor of the Republican National Convention with Brian Lamb and Steve Scully of C-SPAN.

"I felt like a little kid at Elitch's," recalls senior [redacted] a Women's College communication major.

[redacted] who had visited New York before, said the usually frenetic city

<http://www.du.edu/news/GOPconvention.html>

9/23/2004

seemed subdued because of the massive police presence. But inside the hall there was a constant buzz of activity as journalists from around the world prepared for the evening's speech by President Bush, who arrived via helicopter as the students descended onto the convention floor. He stood on the circular podium where students could see—but not hear—him prepare for his appearance that night.

"I was just speechless," senior art major [REDACTED] recalls. "I was so impressed by the magnitude of the man."

While seeing the president and First Lady Laura Bush get ready for the final night of the convention was the highlight of the trip for many students, they said they learned the most from the dedicated and unbiased crew of C-SPAN correspondents.

"I really think they work at keeping their opinions to themselves," [REDACTED] says. "I felt like I saw mass communications in action."

Scully, senior executive producer and political editor for C-SPAN, is the Hostetter Chair in DU's School of Communication as part of a partnership between DU, C-SPAN and The Cable Center. Lamb, founder and chief executive officer of C-SPAN, was the Commencement speaker for DU in June 2003. He and Scully invited DU students to the convention and through their connections, gave them an inside look at convention coverage.

Students gained an understanding of how politics and the government work through discussions with Secretary of Education Rod Paige, NBC Foreign Affairs Correspondent Andrea Mitchell, CNN Crossfire co-host Tucker Carlson and Face the Nation host Bob Schieffer. They looked on as journalists from around the world filmed convention activities and prepared for the convention's climax—President Bush's prime-time speech.

"I think it was a significant moment in history," says senior international business major [REDACTED]

Being there for that moment is a memory students will treasure, says course instructor [REDACTED]. They will remember the overwhelming security surrounding the convention, the 120,000 balloons hanging from the ceiling, the diversity of the journalists covering the convention and the civic commitment of delegates from around the country striving to shape American democracy, she says.

"I was most impressed with how much people love our country," [REDACTED] adds.