



DEPARTMENT OF  
**POLITICAL SCIENCE**  
NEWSLETTER

## *Greetings from the Chair*

Dear alumni, students, faculty, and friends,

April 2016

Greetings and best wishes to all. We have had a year with many highlights, but also some struggles. Most recently, we have received news that a settlement has been reached between the CSU faculty union and administration that will result in the first meaningful faculty pay raises in roughly a decade. Although our faculty members are incredibly dedicated and self-sacrificing, the decline in tenure-track positions and real faculty pay has left us strained to provide the quality education that our students deserve. We hope that this new agreement will put us back on a positive course.

Through it all, our students, staff, and faculty have accomplished many great things, and our alumni have continued to make us proud. In the pages that follow, you will read about these achievements. They include various awards; student and faculty research and scholarly activities; Model United Nations and Moot Court honors and activities; guest speakers; student association events and activities; community outreach; and internships. All the while, our alumni have succeeded in a wide range of careers that demonstrate the value of a political science degree. I am grateful to be part of this impressive department and university, and thank all of you for your contributions. Please stay in touch and share with us your activities and accomplishments!

With warm regards,  
Teresa Wright, Chair

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## CLUBS AND EVENTS

### Political Science Student Association (PSSA)

*From Professor **Edgar Kaskla**, faculty advisor for the PSSA...*

After some reorganization in fall 2015, the PSSA has again resumed normal operations in spring 2016. Moreover, PSSA is enthusiastic about doing even more come fall 2016 given that this is an election year, and the primary season already has seen more than its share of surprises and shocks. We have held meetings every other week on Wednesdays at 5 pm, and expect to follow a similar schedule for next year. PSSA is a great venue to meet other students, to talk about topics beyond what might get covered in classes, and to just plain “hang out.” As everyone knows, CSULB is mostly a commuter school, so any time that we can do something beyond getting annoyed sitting in rush hour traffic is a good thing!

PSSA has served as a foundation for community organizing and social activism in the Long Beach area. Many of our students through the years have volunteered for a variety of causes in Long Beach. CSULB is part of Long Beach—not separate from it—and our students do have a role to play in local affairs. This has been a consistent theme among all our PSSA leaders throughout the years that I have had the privilege to serve as the academic advisor.

For more information on PSSA, find us on Facebook, csulbPSSA. The current president is **Kylie Shahar**.

### Political Science Graduate Student Association (PSGSA)

This year, the Political Science Graduate Student Association (PSGSA) has been very fortunate to have had a series of successful events. Our Expert Hour and Speaker Series, where speakers discuss current events in their field of expertise and present their projects, featured Dr. **Nathan Gonzalez**. Dr. Gonzalez discussed his research gathered in the field on his recent trip to the Middle East, on the self-proclaimed Islamic State (ISIS). Dr. Gonzalez provided a big-picture analysis of how the fight against ISIS is linked to America’s broader policy shift in the Middle East, which includes improving relations with the Islamic State. Also, the PSGSA hosted a screening of the new documentary on climate change, “This Changes Everything,” followed by a discussion led by Dr. **Edgar Kaskla** on the climate movement and where we might be headed with regard to this global issue.

The PSGSA also worked with various student groups on campus, such as the PSSA and the College of Liberal Arts Student Council (CLASC) on some of their events. To name a few, the PSGSA was invited to speak with members of the PSSA about our experience in the CSULB MA program. In fall 2014, the PSGSA collaborated with POSC undergraduate majors and Economics students in a prestigious nationwide competition. PSGSA also has a weekly newsletter, which shares various on- and off-campus events, job/career opportunities, academic scholarships, fellowships, and competitions. And in between our events and class assignments, we all just have a drink and hang out!

Finally, the PSGSA officers (**Amanda Mendoza**, President; **Spencer Lindsay**, Vice-President; **Alex Reyes**, Treasurer; and **Andrew Gomez**, Secretary) could not thank the Department of Political Science enough for all of the support and generosity that have been so instrumental in the success of our events and our experience in the program.

### Transfer Mentoring Program

In fall 2015, Dr. **Alfredo Carlos** developed and launched a new transfer student mentoring program in political science, aimed at assisting transfer students in making the most of their educational opportunities at CSULB while also graduating on schedule. Under Dr. Carlos’ leadership, the mentoring program organized three highly successful events, including a transfer student orientation and mixer, a transfer advising workshop, and a graduate school workshop.



## CLUBS AND EVENTS

### Washington, D.C. Mentoring Program

In its third year, the Washington Mentoring Program, which provides help to current Political Science majors who intend to seek policy careers in Washington D.C. after graduation, has accepted two new students: **Daisy Gallardo**, who will be graduating this year, and **Tanner DiPietro**, who will be graduating next year. They will be assigned Mentors from among our Washington alumni who will help transition them to the Washington scene and work with them as they pursue their career interests.

Gallardo and DiPietro will be joining four other Political Science students who have been admitted into the Mentoring Program since its inception: **Harout (Harry) Bakchajian** (BA 2014), **Vanessa de la Rosa** (BA 2014), **Serafin Rodarte** (BA 2015), and **Karla Galvan** (BA 2016).

Current junior- and senior-level Political Science majors interested in a career in the Washington bureaucracy, or in one of the groups represented in Washington that interacts with the bureaucracy, are encouraged to apply to participate in the Washington Mentoring Program. Application forms are available online: <http://www.cla.csulb.edu/departments/polisci/washington-mentoring-program>. Course work in public policy is highly recommended for those wishing to pursue a Washington policy career, and is a criterion for admission into the Mentoring Program. For more information, please contact **Mary Caputi** or **Barry Steiner** in the Political Science Department.

The Department would like to thank our Washington Mentors for assisting current students who aim at Washington policy careers. Current coordinators of the Mentoring Program in the D.C. area are **Lindsey Canaley** (BA 2006), **Jon Nakagawa** (BA 1995), and **Bernard Togia** (BA 1986). **Philip Partain**, who received both his BA and MA degrees in Political Science from CSULB, and whose background and visit to campus this spring are detailed elsewhere in this Newsletter, participates as a Mentor in this program.

### Post-Graduation Guidance

On Oct. 13, 2015, alumni **Jon Nakagawa** (BA 1995), who has worked for many years in the federal government in Washington, DC, and most recently as a Special Agent in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, spoke to political science students about his work experiences, and offered students advice regarding how to make the most of their college experience, and how to translate that into a post-graduation career, particularly in government.

On April 20, 2016, alumni **Vahid Niayesh** (MA 2011), presently a doctoral student at UC Irvine, joined political science faculty member **Darin Dewitt** on a panel on "Getting a PhD in Political Science: Tips and Realities." Niayesh and Dewitt discussed what to look for and expect in a PhD program, how to apply, and how to best navigate the process.

### Scholarly Intersections Events

#### *Free Speech and Safe Spaces*

On Nov. 3, 2016, the departments of Political Science, Journalism, and Communications co-sponsored an event on "free speech and safe spaces: what should be allowed and protected on college campuses?" The event featured two well-known figures: **Conor Friedersdorf** of the *Atlantic*, and **Joe Cohn** of the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE), as well as a response from **Rich Archbold**, editor of the *Press Telegram*.



(L-R) Teresa Wright, Joe Cohn, Conor Friedersdorf, Rich Archbold, Kevin Wallsten

## CLUBS AND EVENTS

### *Intersectionality in the Classroom*

In spring 2016, political science faculty member **Amy Cabrera Rasmussen** and women's gender and sexuality studies faculty member Shira Tarrant directed a faculty learning community and workshop series exploring the ways in which faculty may explain and utilize difficult concepts such as intersectionality, privilege, and marginalization in the classroom, and how to integrate into classroom lessons the intersectional social justice campaigns (and the activists and advocates who are building them) from our Long Beach and greater Los Angeles communities.

### *Visit by Alumni Philip Partain*

Co-sponsored by the department of Political Science, the department of History, and the program in International Studies, on March 8-9, 2016 **Philip Partain** (BA 1967; MA 1974)—a member of our Mentoring Staff in Washington, D.C. and recently retired from the Central Intelligence Agency—returned to CSULB. The purpose was to allow him to contribute “real world” insights gained from a long career in the national intelligence field. It also permitted him to “give back” to the University from the valued experience that he received at the University more than forty years ago.

On March 8, Partain spoke to two Political Science courses taught by Prof. **Roger Morton**. In a Public Policy class he talked about national intelligence as an element of the executive branch of the government, discussing the purpose of national intelligence, the craft of intelligence (technology as well as scholarship), and the varying cultures of national intelligence (including covert operators, analysts, “targeteers” who bring information together and apply it, and scientific/technology experts). Among the skills necessary for a successful career in this arena, he said, were critical thinking, ability of communicate, knowing one's audience, and listening. Later, in a Public Administration class, he spoke about the politics of life in the executive branch, based upon tensions between elected officials and the bureaucracy. He pointed out that politics ordinarily was needed to accomplish something new in the bureaucracy. In Partain's case, this was the creation of a new intelligence discipline for “Measurement and Signatures” Intelligence (MASINT), which uses very technical scientific applications to study such subjects as arms development, narcotics, and space activities. He has been publicly commended for this achievement.

On March 9, Partain joined faculty members, **Larry George, Charles Mahoney, Nathan Gonzalez, and Barry Steiner**, in a panel discussion on “ISIS and American Foreign Policy.” Here, dealing with a high priority foreign policy problem, Partain's views set him apart from other panelists and contributed to a good interchange and debate. He was more supportive of American force use against ISIS, along the lines of American government action today, than were the other panelists.

The Department thanks Philip Partain for contributing to our learning objectives, both on campus during his recent stay and in his work Mentoring recent graduates who have gone on to Washington policy careers.

### **Pi Sigma Alpha Honors Society and Awards Reception**

At the 2015 annual Pi Sigma Alpha awards reception, honors were given to: **Michelle Desrosiers** (Outstanding Graduating Senior), **Dilyana Valeva** (Outstanding Graduate Student), **Karla Galvan** (Outstanding Achievement Award), **Jocelyn Kuo** (Edwin Roberts Scholarship), **Ashley Montgomery** (Robert Delorme Scholarship) and **Krist Biankanja** and **Kevin Poush** (Moot Court Achievement Award). In addition, **Amanda Mendoza** was named the department's Outstanding First-Year MA Student for 2014-15. Our **Pi Sigma Alpha officers** for 2015-16 were: **Andrew Scibetta** (President), **Heather Marshall** (Vice President), and **Vivian Dao** (Secretary). The 2016 awards reception will be held on April 26.

*The Department extends a special thanks to CSULB's Forty-Niner Shops for their generous donations to our annual awards reception.*

### **POSC Faculty on TV**

In spring 2015, faculty member **Charles Mahoney** appeared on Beach TV's “Talking Points,” discussing private military and security corporations: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vkzmkhVOGz4>

In January 2016, faculty members **Charles Mahoney, Kevin Wallsten, and Jason Whitehead** were panelists on a program entitled “2016 Political Gridlock: Issues and Voter Behavior,” moderated by chair **Teresa Wright**. The program was part of Beach TV's “In Conversation,” series: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kVbvPMU\\_Gtc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kVbvPMU_Gtc)

## CLUBS AND EVENTS

In February 2016, faculty member **Kevin Wallsten** discussed immigration policy on Beach TV's "Talking Points": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nd-iwfoTVxg>

In April 2016, faculty member **Cora Goldstein** appeared on C-SPAN, discussing her book, *Capturing the German Eye: American Visual Propaganda in Occupied Germany*: <http://www.c-span.org/video/?407603-1/book-discussion-capturing-german-eye>



## STAFF NEWS

The Department has continued to benefit from the amazing work of our Administrative Support Coordinator, **Amelia Marquez**, who keeps the office running smoothly and efficiently, and all with great cheer, positivity, and humor. We are extremely lucky to have her. This year we also were fortunate to have a new Administrative Support Assistant come on board—**Jason Francescon**, who earned his BA in Theater at CSULB. Jason has been wonderful from the start, and his professionalism and terrific attitude have been much appreciated. Jason will be leaving us at the end of this academic year, as he has been offered a full scholarship and stipend to join the MFA program at the University of Missouri, Kansas City. Look for his name in lights!

## Faculty Publications & Activities

**Mary Caputi** (*Political Theory; Ph.D., Cornell University*) has been on leave from CSULB during the 2015-16 academic year to serve as the Resident Director for CSU Florence. Recent publications include two essays in *Interpreting Political Theory*, co-edited by Clement Fatovic and Sean Walsh, to be published by Routledge in 2017: "Feminist Interventions Into Political Theory: the Power of Supplemental Logic;" and "Deconstruction and Interpretation in Political Theory" (co-authored with Sean Walsh). Dr. Caputi also presented a paper entitled "Unintentional Truth and the Thematics of Restoration" at the Florence Biennale in October 2015, and the International Critical Theory Conference of Rome in May 2016. In July 2016 she will begin a three-year term as editor of *Politics & Gender*.

**Alfredo Carlos** (*American Politics; Ph.D., University of California Irvine; MA CSULB*) In fall 2015, Dr. Carlos established a new mentoring program for POSC transfer students at CSULB. Dr. Carlos also continues to serve as the faculty advisor to CSULB's La Raza Student Association.

**Christopher Dennis** (*American Politics; Ph.D., University of Georgia*) is teaching half-time in our Faculty Early Retirement Program (FERP).

**Darin Dewitt** (*American Politics; Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles*) recent publications include a co-authored article with Matthew Atkinson: "Celebrity Political Endorsements Matter," in *Celebrity Studies*. Drawing on economic forecasts, prediction markets, and campaign finance records, Dr. Dewitt contributed

evidence-based insights about the unfolding presidential nomination process to the Monkey Cage at the *Washington Post*. His most recent contribution, "Economic forecasts suggest the presidential race should be a toss-up. So why aren't Republicans doing better?" can be found at:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkeycage/wp/2016/03/07/economic-forecasts-suggest-the-presidential-race-should-be-a-toss-up-so-why-arent-republicans-doing-better/>

**Larry N. George** (*International Relations; Ph.D. Princeton University*) gave a talk entitled "Deleuze and ISIS" at the conference "Deleuze and Guattari: Refrains of Freedom" in Athens, Greece in April, 2015. In March 2016, he presented a paper, "Isis' Monstrous Double" at the annual meeting of the International Studies Association in Atlanta, GA.

# Faculty Publications & Activities

He has also participated in two campus forums this year on the ISIS threat.

**Cora Goldstein** (*Comparative Politics; Ph.D. University of Chicago*) recent publications include: "Drones, Honor, and War," in *Military Review*; and "A Comparative Analysis of Cultural Control: The German Military Occupation of France (1940-1942) and The American Military Occupation of Germany (1945-1949)," forthcoming in *The Journal of Military History*. Her piece "Good Kill? U.S. Soldiers and the Killing of Civilians in American Film" is forthcoming in an edited volume titled, *Disappearing War*. Dr. Goldstein received an APSA Small Research Grant, and used it to conduct research in the National Archives, College Park, Maryland.

**Liesl Haas** (*Comparative Politics; Ph.D. University of North Carolina*) continues her research with Richard Haesly on the changing role of religion in American politics. She and Dr. Haesly presented two co-authored papers at the Annual International Conference on Religion in Society, in Washington DC, in March 2016. She received a sabbatical for Fall 2016 to continue fieldwork for her current project, which examines the political impact of Latino Evangelicals on Republican politics.

**Richard Haesly** (*Comparative Politics; Ph.D. University of North Carolina*) Dr. Haesly serves as one of two Undergraduate Advisors for the department and is the President of the campus chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. His article, "Nationalism" was published in *The Encyclopedia of American Political Culture*. He and Liesl Haas continue their research project on the changing role of Evangelical Christians in American politics, and have submitted a co-authored article, "Welcoming the Stranger: The Evangelical Challenge to Republicans on Immigration Reform," for publication review. Dr. Haesly received a university Summer Stipend to collect data for another article,

"Latino Evangelicals and the Evolution of the Evangelical Electorate."

**Edgar Kaskla** (*Comparative Politics; Ph.D. University of California, Irvine*) serves on the editorial board of the Estonian language journal, *Acta Politica*, and as the faculty advisor for the Political Science Students Association (PSSA).

**Charles Mahoney** (*International Relations; Ph.D. University of California, Los Angeles*) Dr. Mahoney's manuscript "Buyer Beware: How Market Structure Affects Contracting and Company Performance in the Private Military Industry," was accepted for publication by the journal *Security Studies*. In addition, Dr. Mahoney presented two papers and the annual meeting of the International Studies Association. The first paper addresses how organizations that use terrorism use bluffing in militant campaigns. The second manuscript examines how path dependence affects the behavior of private military corporations.

**Larry Martinez** (*International Relations; Ph.D. University of Santa Barbara*) taught "Political Cultures Along the Silk Road" at KIMEP University's International Summer School in Almaty, Kazakhstan. The course incorporates a Model UN mini-conference debating cultural diversity issues in the context of Internet challenges to information sovereignty. His paper, "The Hard and Soft Law of 'Gravity'" was presented at the International Institute of Space Colloquium in Jerusalem, as well as at a faculty research colloquium at CSULB. Martinez's current research investigates the growing cyber-vulnerability of outer space satellite systems.

**Roger Morton** (*American Politics; Ph.D. University of California, Irvine*) is the Executive Director of the Sustainable Neighbors Network (facilitating study abroad opportunities for Senegalese students and coordinating charitable work in Senegal) and Visions

Made Visible (a non-profit that coordinates charitable projects undertaken by various organizations).

**Charles Noble** (*American Politics; Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley*) is teaching half-time in our Faculty Early Retirement Program (FERP).

**Amy Cabrera Rasmussen** (*American Politics; Ph.D., Yale University, MA and BA CSULB*) continues her research examining discourse about various aspects of health policy and politics. She recently published "The discursive context of reproductive ethics" in the *Oxford Handbook of Reproductive Ethics*. At the March 2016 Western Political Science Association conference, she presented a paper on media and community framing of environmental health and participated in a roundtable on the APSA's data access and research transparency policies. She continues to serve as one of the department's undergraduate advisors and as a faculty mentor for the CSULB Partners for Success program.

**Lewis Ringel** (*Public Law; Ph.D. University of Maryland*) continues to chair the National Case Committee of the American Collegiate Moot Court Association (ACMA), and helped author the 2015-16 national case. In January 2016, Dr. Ringel directed the national Moot Court tournament, held for the first time at CSULB.

**Barry Steiner** (*International Relations; Ph.D. Columbia University*) continues work on his book project with Roman & Littlefield, on "Theory and Diplomatic Conflict Management." He prepared an invited paper, titled, "A Diplomatic Viewpoint Encounters the Galtung and Security Community Paradigms," for the annual meeting of the International Studies Association, which is to be part of this manuscript. Dr. Steiner led the department's successful application for a CLA Scholarly Intersections Grant that

## Faculty Publications & Activities

made possible the visit of alumni Philip Partain to campus on March 8-9, 2016 (see “Events”). Dr. Steiner also reviewed a manuscript for the *International Studies Review*.

**Kevin Wallsten** (*American Politics; Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley*) recent publications include: “Persuasion from Below? An Experimental Assessment of the Impact of Comment Sections on News Reader Attitudes” (with Melinda Tarsi), in *Journalism Practice*. The article was given the 2015 Best Paper Award – Honorable Mention by the APSA Section on Information Technology and Politics. Dr. Wallsten also published a blog in the *Washington Post*: <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2015/12/30/race-affects-opinions-about-whether-college-athletes-should-be-paid-heres-how>

**Jason Whitehead** (*Public Law; Ph.D. University of Southern California, JD Willamette University, BA CSULB*)

continues to serve as the director of the Legal Studies Certificate program and as the campus pre-law advisor for the Law School Admission Council. In fall 2015, Dr. Whitehead was on sabbatical while he conducted fieldwork with 36 different Christian pastors, church members, and ministry leaders from 8 different states and 29 different organizations. This research will help him complete his second book, “The Law of the Lord: Mapping the Legal Worldview of Christian Conservatives,” which will be published by Cambria University Press. In spring 2016, he presented papers at the 6th Annual International Conference on Religion and Spirituality in Society in Washington, D.C., and the Annual

Meeting of the Western Political Science Association in San Diego.

**Teresa Wright** (*Comparative Politics, Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley*) is working on a new book on “Popular Protest in Contemporary China,” under contract with Polity Press. In 2015-16, she presented papers on “Political Discourse on the Internet in China” at a conference on Political Participation in Asia hosted by Stockholm University; and on “Private Sector Worker Protests in Contemporary China” at the Western Political Science Association conference. She also gave invited talks at UC Irvine and the Orange County Museum of Art, and co-chaired the Division on the Comparative Politics of Developing Countries for the 2015 American Political Science Association conference.

## Emeritus Faculty

### *Faculty Retirements*

**William Leiter** (*Public Law; Ph.D. University of Chicago*) retired from CSULB in 2015. Along with teaching in the political science department for many years, Dr. Leiter conducted research on law and policy in connection with minority/gender/sexual-orientation/disability/senior-status affirmative action in employment, education, voting, government procurement, and criminal justice.

**Gerry Riposa** (*American Politics; Ph.D. University of California, Riverside*) retired from CSULB in 2016. Dr. Riposa joined the political science department at CSULB in 1989. From 1994-2000, he served as the chair of the department. From 2002-2006, he was the Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts (CLA), and from 2006-2011, he was the Dean of the CLA. Subsequently, he returned to teaching in the department, including courses on his research interests in public policy and urban politics.

### *Ronald Schmidt Receives American Political Science Association Award*

In 2014, POSC Emeritus faculty member **Ronald Schmidt** was the honored recipient of the Frank J. Goodnow Award. The award recognizes distinguished service to the profession and the American Political Science Association (APSA) by an individual, group, or public and private organization that has played a role in the development of the political science profession and the building of the APSA. Dr. Schmidt’s nomination for the award included letters of support signed by members of the CSULB POSC faculty and some seventy political science colleagues from around the country.

The citation accompanying the presentation of the award recognizes Dr. Schmidt for his “tireless institution-building efforts” in political science at the national, regional, and local levels. In the APSA, he was a key participant in the establishment of the organized section on Race, Ethnicity, and Politics, serving as section President, and he was a member of the APSA Committee on the Status of Latinas and Latinos in the Profession. He has been a member of the Editorial Board of the *American Political Science Review* and *PS: Political Science and Politics*, and has served on numerous awards committees. In the Western Political Science Association (WPSA), Dr. Schmidt has served as President and as a member of the Long Range Planning Committee, helping the WPSA develop a long-term financial plan and launch the journal *Politics, Groups and Identities*. He has served the profession with a

## Emeritus Faculty

strong commitment to mentoring “low-income, first generation and underrepresented students to prepare them for doctoral work,” participating in the California State University Sally Casanova Pre-Doctoral Fellows Program, the McNair Scholars Program, and the “Partners for Success” Program. He has taken his concern for student education beyond his own campus and served as a member of the APSA Task Force on Mentoring, and the Education Committee. Dr. Schmidt has demonstrated throughout his career a “fundamental belief in the importance of the collective enterprise,” and his colleagues praise his consistent commitment to “improving the health and vibrancy of every collective space in which he has participated.” Since his retirement from CSULB, Dr. Schmidt has continued to be active in his scholarly pursuits. His recent publications include: “Immigration Policy,” in Domonic A. Bearfield and Melvin J. Dubnik, eds., *Encyclopedia of Public Administration and Policy*, 3rd edition (2016); “Immigrants and the Reframing of National Identity Politics in the United States,” in Christina Spaeti, ed., *Language and Identity Politics: A Cross-Atlantic Perspective* (2015); “Race and Politics,” in Mark Bevir and R.A.W. Rhodes, eds. *Routledge Handbook of Interpretive Political Science* (2015); and “Democratic Theory and the Challenge of Linguistic Diversity,” in Thomas Ricento, Yael Peled, and Peter Ives, eds., *Language Policy and Political Theory: Building Bridges, Assessing Breaches* (2015). He also co-chaired the Section on Critical and Normative Political Theory for the Midwest Political Science Association in 2016.

### *In Memorium: Joanna Vecchiarelli Scott*

**Joanna Vecchiarelli Scott**, a political theorist and member of the CSULB Political Science Department from 1974 to 1990, passed away on November 1, 2015, in Ann Arbor Michigan, at the age of 72. She was the first woman to receive a tenure-line appointment in the CSULB Political Science Department. At her death she was Professor of Political Science at Eastern Michigan University, where she served as Department Chair for five years.

Professor Scott received her BA from Barnard College in New York, her MA in Political Science from Columbia University, and her PhD from the University of Strathclyde, in Glasgow, Scotland. Her research focused on Hannah Arendt, a well-known German émigré and public intellectual whose work ranged from a study of St. Augustine to evaluating the trial in Jerusalem of Adolph Eichmann.

With Judith Chelius Star, she published a corrected and revised English translation of Arendt’s doctoral dissertation, *Love and Saint Augustine* (University of Chicago Press, 1998), which Arendt completed in the early 1930’s in Germany but later annotated and revised in light of her contemporary studies of political life. The published edition brought attention to the dissertation as a bridge in Arendt’s prolific writings, and was important in establishing Arendt’s place in American scholarship.

Professor Scott was a tireless supporter of equality for women and other minorities in the political science profession. She served on nominations committees of the American Political Science Association (APSA) which recommended the first two consecutive women APSA Presidents, Theda Skocpol and Susanne Rudolph. She was president of the APSA Women’s Caucus for Political Science (2006) and an APSA Vice President (2008-2009).

Scott also argued that the APSA needed to do more to involve the sizeable numbers of its members working in non-“Research 1” institutions. She was one of the very few representatives from BA/MA institutions to serve on the APSA Council.

Born in Fort Smith, Arkansas, she was raised in New Jersey and was already known in her high school for her feisty “Jersey attitude”. As a high school journalist, she attended the famous 1959-60 Soviet Exhibit and “Kitchen Debate” between Vice President Richard Nixon and Soviet premier Nikita Khrushchev at the New York Coliseum, and her writings about that episode and other subjects led to conflict with school administrators.

Professor Scott was married for fifty years to Doug Scott, another political scientist, and had two children.

Written by **Barry H. Steiner**, Department of Political Science, CSULB

## STUDENT NEWS

**Hillary Black** has been accepted for a fall 2016 internship with the U.S State Department, in Geneva, Switzerland.

**Micaela Bonner** has been accepted into the Teach For America Los Angeles program for fall 2016.

**Morgan Chase** will be interning with

POSC alumni and Orange County Superior Court Judge Dennis Keough in the summer of 2016.

**Oceana Christopher** worked as a communications intern with the City of Long Beach Environmental Services Department in fall 2015. While there, she shot and edited a video about street

sweeping and worked on social media ads aimed at improving people’s recycling habits (see Longbeach-recycles.org).

**Diego Duarte** will attend law school in the fall of 2016.

**Karla Estupinian** is an intern for the Jeaninne Pearce for Long Beach City



## STUDENT NEWS

<p>Council campaign.</p> <p><b>Karla Galvan</b> interned with the House Democratic Caucus in Washington, DC during the summer of 2015.</p> <p><b>Edgar Gonzalez</b> will be starting law school at Willamette University College of Law in fall 2016.</p> <p><b>Brenda Ibanez</b> has been accepted to CSULB's Masters of Public Administration program.</p> <p><b>Fadi Kassis</b> has been accepted to several law schools, including California Western School of Law in San Diego, Western State College of Law in Fullerton, and Whittier Law School in Costa Mesa.</p> <p><b>Jocelyn Kuo</b> is interning with the New York State Assembly during the spring 2016 semester. In the summer of 2016, she will spend seven weeks at the University of Michigan, where she has been offered a Public Policy &amp;</p>	<p>International Affairs Fellowship.</p> <p><b>Joseph Lopez</b> has been offered an intern position at the LA City Controller's office.</p> <p><b>Robert Marlow</b> will enter CSULB's MA program in POSC in fall 2016.</p> <p><b>Mitchel Morales</b> has been selected to represent CSULB at the Panetta Institute in Washington, DC in fall 2016.</p> <p><b>Nestor Moto Jr.</b> has been elected Chairman of the Long Beach Young Republicans and Vice Chairman of the Log Cabin Republicans of Orange County.</p> <p><b>Bimbola Osimile</b> will attend law school in the fall of 2016.</p> <p><b>Stephanie Robles</b> is one of only 25 CSULB students to be accepted this year for admission to Phi Beta Kappa, America's oldest and most prestigious honors society.</p>	<p><b>Ryan Sweeney</b> represented CSULB at the Panetta Institute in Washington, DC in fall 2015, where he worked as an intern for CA Congressman Jerry McNerny (9<sup>th</sup> District). In this capacity, Sweeney did research in support of a piece of legislation regarding disability compliance. In March 2016, McNerny introduced the bill in the House of Representatives (<a href="http://mcnerney.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/rep-mcnerney-announces-ada-compliance-legislation">http://mcnerney.house.gov/media-center/press-releases/rep-mcnerney-announces-ada-compliance-legislation</a>).</p> <p><b>Sabrina van der Linden-Gonzalez</b> has been accepted into the J.D. / Ph.D. program at U.C. Irvine.</p> <p><b>Kasey Ventura</b> is a Membership Fellow at California Common Cause, a non-profit, non-partisan, grassroots advocacy organization.</p> <p><b>Lynn Ward</b> will enter CSULB's MA program in POSC in fall 2016.</p>
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## ALUMNI CORNER

**Michael Houlihan (BA 1968)** was awarded CSULB's highest alumni honor, the Distinguished Alumni Award, in 2015. The award is bestowed annually in each College by the CSULB Alumni Association. In addition to demonstrated pride and positive affinity for CSULB, awardees have achieved a record of distinction, recognition and accomplishment in their fields and a proven record of leadership and service to their communities and society at large. Houlihan and his wife, Bonnie Harvey, co-authored the New York Times bestselling business book, *The Barefoot Spirit: How Hardship, Hustle, and Heart Built America's #1 Wine Brand*. The book has been selected as recommended reading in the CEO Library for CEO Forum, the C-Suite Book Club, and numerous university classes on business and entrepreneurship. It chronicles their humble beginnings from the laundry room of a rented Sonoma County farmhouse in 1986, to the board room of E&J Gallo, where they successfully sold their brand in 2005. Barefoot is now the world's largest wine brand.

Currently, Houlihan and Harvey travel the world keynoting at universities, corporations, conferences and symposiums. In a phone call with POSC Chair Teresa Wright, Houlihan spoke with great fondness about his education at CSULB, and credited much of his success to the knowledge and skills that he honed through his POSC coursework.

## ALUMNI NEWS

<p><b>Reema Abboud (BA 2011)</b> is practicing criminal defense and employment law with the law firm of Fakhimi &amp; Associates in Santa Ana.</p> <p><b>Yasmine Arsala (MA 2015)</b> After serving as a Development and</p>	<p>Relations Intern for The Middle East Institute, Arsala has accepted a Sr. Development Coordinator position with JHPIEGO, an international non-profit health organization affiliated with Johns Hopkins University.</p>	<p><b>Ryan Ashlock (MA 2013)</b> is a financial associate for a private investment company in the Dallas/Fort Worth area of Texas.</p> <p><b>Devin Benavidez (BA 2010)</b> has worked in Washington, DC since</p>
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# ALUMNI NEWS

graduation, most recently as a legislative aide to U.S. Senator Joe Donnelly of Indiana. This fall, he will begin pursuing his J.D. at Georgetown Law School.

**Donnie Bessom (MA 2012)** is an adjunct professor of political science at Long Beach City College, where he teaches American Government. He is also involved in environmental curriculum development.

**Krist Biakanja (BA 2013)** is finishing his first year at the University of Washington School of Law. In summer 2016, he will be in Los Angeles District Attorney's Office's Hardcore Gang Unit.

**Megan Blash (MA 2009)** is the Social Science department chair at a local high school, where she is also the curriculum leader and teacher of both AP U.S. Government and Politics, and AP Macroeconomics.

**Corey Booth (BA 2002)** teaches American government as an adjunct professor in the State Center Community College District, where he has been for seven years.

**Richard Bosanko (BA 2011)** earned his J.D. from Willamette University in 2014, and recently passed the Oregon Bar exam.

**Kyle Bourne (BA 2010)** earned a Master of Legal Studies at Willamette University College of Law in 2015. He is now pursuing a single-subject teaching credential at CSULB.

**Ashlie Brillault (BA 2010)** passed the bar and is a criminal defense attorney, Of Counsel for the Law Offices of David Givot and the Law Offices of David Borsari.

**Taylor Carr (BA 2012)** graduated from law school and is employed at the Ventura County DA's Office.

**David Casarrubias (BA 2014)** is finishing his first year at Hastings School of Law. He will be clerk for the

Office of Administrative Law Judges at the U.S. Department of Labor this summer for the Hon. Judge Jennifer Gee. In moot court he received honorable mentions in both oral advocacy and written brief.

**Ryan Chapman (BA 2013)** is in his second year at Pepperdine School of Law. He was selected as a Lead Article Editor for Volume 44 of *Pepperdine Law Review*, and has had a Comment selected for publication in next year's law review. He also was named to the moot court team. In summer 2016, Chapman will work as a Summer Clerk for the County Counsel of Orange County's office.

**Brittany Conrad (MA 2011)** teaches at Long Beach City College and Pasadena City College, and is the Events Coordinator for Barks of Love Animal Rescue.

**Stephanie Crahen (BA 2006 / MA 2009)** teaches English in Italy for the Cambridge Centre of English. In early 2016, she met with her former mentor, Dr. Mary Caputi, while Dr. Caputi was on leave in Florence (see picture below).



Dr. Mary Caputi and alumna Stephanie Crahen, in Italy

**Allison Evans (MA 2006)** received her PhD in political science from the University of Pennsylvania in 2014. Currently, she is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Western New Mexico University (WNMU). In 2015, she was named WMNU's "Professor of the Year" (as determined by students' votes), and in 2016 she was nominated for WMNU's "Excellence in Teaching Award" (which is awarded by a faculty committee).

**Jillian Ewan (BA 2011)** passed the bar and is employed at the Ventura County DA's Office.

**Amy Fernandez (MA 2010, BA 2008)** is earning her J.D. this semester at California Western School of Law, and will graduate on the Dean's List. For her work as a legal intern for the California Innocence Project, Fernandez received the Joe Walsh Award for outstanding performance.

**Alysse Florez (MA 2014)** is working as a Litigation Assistant at a law firm in Century City.

**Joanna Franco (BA 2014)** began the MPP program at UC Irvine in fall 2015.

**Jamison Gilmore (BA 2015)** is finishing his first year at Southwestern Law School, where his grades have placed him in the top 20% so far. He made it to the octa-finals of Southwestern's intramural moot court competition this spring. This summer, he will be studying international entertainment law in London, England.

**Blair Green (Land) (BA 2008)** began her career as an Administrative Receptionist at a managed care organization which was later bought out by Tenet Healthcare. Currently, she does contracting for Healthcare Partners, which was acquired by Davita.

**Mason Green (BA 2014)** While an undergrad at CSULB, Green worked with special needs children, and he has continued that path since. Currently, he is working for the Torrance Unified School District, while simultaneously pursuing a Master's in Education.

**Jason Greenidge (BA 2013)** is a full-time federal employee at the VA hospital in Long Beach, working as part of its administrative support team.

**Ashley Hall (BA 2014)** has been accepted to law school at Columbia, Yale, and Stanford, Berkeley, Pennsylvania, Michigan, and Virginia.

## ALUMNI NEWS

**Nicholas Hassani (BA 2013)** has been working in satellite procurement with Boeing in El Segundo since graduation. For fall 2016, he has been accepted to Loyola Marymount University Law School in Los Angeles.

**Ashley Hernandez (BA 2014)** has been accepted into the U.C. Irvine Graduate School of Social Ecology - Policy, Planning, and Design, with an offer of five years of full paid tuition and living expenses.

**Matthew Highland (MA 2014)** recently was hired to be the Communications Director for the State of Iowa's Medicaid program. Highland states, "Though I had an extensive communications background and experience, I know it was my Master's degree from Cal State Long Beach that pushed me past the other candidates."

**Michael Houlihan (BA 1968)**, author and founder of Barefoot Wines, received the 2015 CSULB Distinguished Alumni Award (see Alumni Corner, above)

**Laurie Houske (MA 2006)** teaches political science at El Camino Community College. In spring 2016, she mentored current POSC MA student **Joshua Casper** in a "college teaching practicum."

**Katie Huso (BA 2003)** is a civil litigation and insurance defense attorney in Billings, Montana. She recently became a shareholder at Matovich, Keller & Murphy, P.C. In 2015, she was selected as a Mountain States Super Lawyers Rising Star in the area of insurance coverage.

**Sam Juliano (MA 2014)** is in the teaching credential program at CSU Fullerton, and is also substitute teaching in Orange County and coaching.

**Denis Keough (BA 1971)** is a Superior Court Judge on the Orange County Superior Court.

**Janae Knallay (BA 2012)** earned her J.D. in 2015 from the University of San Diego. She is a graduate legal assistant at the California Board of Parole Hearings in Sacramento.

**Katie Kruger (MA 2008)** is a PhD candidate in the Government and Politics Department of University of Maryland. She is studying American politics and public law, with an emphasis on the federal legal bureaucracy and the Supreme Court.

**Jacob Larsen (MA 2008)** is working as an associate employment law attorney for Perona, Langer, Beck, Serbin, Mendoza and Harrison, APC in Long Beach, CA.

**Bernie Lazareno (MA 2014)** is a PhD student in the Politics Department at U.C. Santa Cruz. He is part of an international research project funded through the US Dept. of Defense's Minerva Research Initiative that investigates the factors that contribute to individuals becoming or not becoming terrorists. As part of this project, he has coauthored a chapter for an edited forthcoming book. In February, he and his co-authors presented that chapter, entitled "Approving of but Not Choosing Violence: Paths of Nonviolent Radicals," at the Naval Post Graduate School's Department of National Security Affairs. The chapter has also been accepted for presentation at the 2016 Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association in Philadelphia.

**Jacob Lenerville (MA 2011)** is a social science teacher, and an instructor at Barstow Community College. He is also Adjunct Professor of History/Political Science at Vanguard University of Southern California.

**Alex Lohman (BA 2011)** was elected to the Executive Board of the American Collegiate Moot Court Association and passed the Florida Bar. She is a Judicial Law Clerk for the 15th Judicial

Circuit of Florida.

**Sarah Malik (BA 2014)** is a project coordinator at the Wikimedia Foundation in San Francisco. Before that, she had a six-month fellowship with the Singapore chapter of UN Women.

**Jessica Martinez (BA 2009)** is a litigation associate in New York City with Jenner & Block LLP.

**Kyle Maury (BA 2013)** is in his third year of law school at Notre Dame. In addition to being a member of the *Notre Dame Law Review*, he is a member of the Notre Dame Moot Court Board's Seventh Circuit Team, where he will argue a habeas corpus appeal at the Seventh Circuit in Chicago next spring. Maury externed at the United States Attorney's Office for the Central District of California during his first summer in law school, and in his second year summer was an associate at the law firm Jones Day in Irvine. Maury will clerk for the Honorable Federico Moreno at the United States District Court for the Southern District of California beginning in 2018.

**Daisy Monterroso (BA 2015)** works with the AFL-CIO's Organizing Immigration Pilot program. She is planning to go to law school in fall 2016.

**Jorge Morales (BA 2002)** is the Mayor of South Gate, CA.

**Christian Muro (BA 2014)** is finishing his first year at Willamette University College of Law. He soon will receive the Pro Bono Honors Award for his volunteer work with the transgender community through the Salem (Oregon) Social Justice Collective. He also will be working with the Chief Justice DeMuniz Center helping former prisoners re-acclimate to life on the outside and conducting legal research for appellate cases.

**Vahid Niayesh (MA 2011)** is a PhD candidate in the Department of Political Science, University of California, Irvine,

## ALUMNI NEWS

and a research affiliate with the Center for the Study of Democracy at UCI.

**Allan Nguyen (BA 2013)** has been accepted into the Master's program in Public Policy at both UCI and UCLA, to begin in fall 2016.

**Melissa Nordall (MA 2015)** will enter the law program at the Boalt School of Law at UC Berkeley in fall 2016. Nordall also was accepted to law school programs at the University of Washington, American University in DC, the George Washington University, University of Minnesota, Case Western Reserve University, and the University of San Diego.

**John Oney (BA 2014)** has been accepted to several law schools, including St. Mary's Law School in San Antonio and Michigan State University College of Law in East Lansing, Michigan.

**William Owusu (BA 2003)** does contract work for the World Bank and is a co-founder of the NGO, Minds on Africa, whose mission is "to strengthen the African Community by connecting local citizens, ideas, and resources to help support African development efforts."

**Karen Pitakdumrongkit (BA 2005)** earned her PhD at UC Santa Barbara and currently is an Assistant Professor at the Centre for Multilateralism Studies, at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS) of Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. Before joining RSIS, Pitakdumrongkit worked for the Kenan Institute Asia, analysing trade and industry data concerning the impact of the proposed EU-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement on Thailand's industries.

**Titus Potter (BA 2010)** is a law student at the University of Illinois College of Law. Potter and his teammates won the American Association of Justice Regional in Louisville, Kentucky in March 2016, and placed 5<sup>th</sup> in the

American Association of Justice National Finals in New Orleans in April 2016.

**Kevin Poush (BA 2014)** is heading into his final year at Southwestern School of Law. He is a member of the Trial Advocacy Honors Program and is on the Moot Court team. He will be a Certified Law Clerk with the Major Narcotics Division of the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office.

**Othman (Ozzie) Ramadan (MA 2013)** teaches 9th grade English at a local high school.

**Jose Ramos (BA 2006)** is finishing his first year at The Boalt School of Law at U.C. Berkeley. This summer, he will be working as a judicial intern with Judge Charles R. Breyer at the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California in San Francisco.

**Dana Randazzo (MA 2009)** has been an Executive Assistant for a CA Congressman, as is currently working in public affairs at the UCLA Medical Center.

**Serafin Rodarte (BA 2015)** will start a Master's program in international relations at the University of Bristol in England in fall 2016.

**Saul Rodriguez (BA 2011)** earned his MA in Teaching in 2014, at Dominican University, in River Forest, IL. From 2011-2014, he was a bilingual 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grade teacher for Teach For America at Eugene Field Elementary, in Chicago, IL. From 2013-2014, he was the bilingual lead teacher for the program, managing and coordinating instruction and bilingual curriculum development, and ensuring that the school's bilingual program was in compliance with all federal, state, and Chicago Public Schools policies. At present, he is a Citizenship Class Instructor for Catholic Charities in Los Angeles, CA.

**Deborah Rowe (BA 2012)** is the Office Manager and Executive Assistant to the

Minority Whip of the U.S. House of Representatives.

**Valeria Salceda (BA 2014)** is in the MA program in Public Diplomacy at USC, and is the Editor-in-Chief of *Public Diplomacy Magazine*.

**John Sellers (BA 2013)** is finishing his second year at Brigham Young University Law School, where he also serves on the editorial boards of several law reviews. In summer 2015, he worked as a law clerk in the Texas Attorney General's office and also with the law firm of Shumway Van in San Antonio.

**Martina (Keopisei) Som (BA 2012)** is studying security at the Josef Korbel School of International Studies at the University of Denver.

**Tracey Somerville (MA 2005)** taught liberal studies courses at CSULB, and political science courses at several community colleges in Southern California until 2012. She is now working in the private sector doing business development for an international professional services firm.

**Frederick Strain (BA 1973)** taught at the U.S. War College and is a retired Air Force colonel.

**Ali Taghavi (MA 1997)** is the Director of Communications at Pepperdine University. He also has worked in public relations for the University of California and the UCLA Health System.

**Brianna Wilbur (BA 2013)** is a rising 3L at Texas Tech College of Law. She is on the moot court team and was named best orator at the ABA Boston Regional Tournament. Her team won the National Entertainment Law Moot Court Tournament. She is externing at the Legal Aid of Northwest Texas.

**Veronika Zubo (MA 2010)** has been working as a research and communications associate in Washington, DC at a media and messaging company dedicated to state and local politics.

# MODEL UNITED NATIONS

The Model United Nations (MUN) program had a very eventful 2015-16 where the “real” world of international politics impinged on the “simulated” MUN world. The terrorist attacks in Paris in November that killed CSULB foreign study student Noehmi Gonzalez resulted in a last-minute cancellation of the MUN trip to the Bonn International MUN Conference, a conference we have been attending since 2003.

The Bonn delegation, though, was added to the MUN student delegates selected to represent India at the Nanyang Technological University (NTU) Model UN Conference in Singapore in February. With 8 CSULB delegates, we were among the biggest teams from outside Asia participating in the conference. Former CSULB political science student **Karen Pitakdumrongkit**, now Assistant Professor at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies at NTU, briefed our delegation about NTU international education opportunities and Singapore’s key role in a very contested region of Southeast Asia.



Delegates attending the NTU MUN (L-R): Sylvia Kirolos, Sarah Cobos, Chandler Hull, Andrea Castro, Richard De Leon, Richard Garcia, Darshan Patel, Asaad Al Raeesi, and Dr. Larry Martinez

The MUN club sent a delegation to the March National MUN Conference at the UN Headquarters in New York City. Representing the Caribbean nation of Dominica, the delegation’s performance was recognized with an Outstanding Delegation Award, quite an honor from the world’s largest MUN conference (picture to right).

The CSULB MUN program also extended its assistance to local high schools and community colleges at the March Long Beach International MUN Conference (pictured below), a one-day training conference held on our campus to prepare delegates for the multi-day conferences they would be attending, in our case, the MUN of the Far West, held in San Francisco in April.



Last summer, Dr. **Larry Martinez**, the MUN faculty adviser, incorporated a MUN simulation as part of the Political Culture of the Silk Road course he taught at our partner university in Almaty, Kazakhstan. KIMEP University’s International Summer School’s course had students representing the five republics of Central Asia at a simulated negotiation over Internet policies that are perceived as challenging cultural values in countries attempting to promote economic and societal development in Central Asia.

# MOOT COURT



**2015-16 CSULB Moot Court Team:** (L-R) Professor Lewis Ringel (Coach), Back Row: Dominique Noble, Ciarra Lofstrom, Bimbola Omisile, Diego Duarte, Justice Paul Turner, and Judge John Tobin. From Row: Ciarra Lofstrom, Lilian Truong, Justin Adofina, Mindy Vo, Sabrina van der Linden Gonzalez (Assistant Coach), and Julieta Hernandez.

Led by director **Lewis Ringel**, CSULB's moot court team had a very successful season -- especially when one considers that, after graduating 12 of the 14 members of its 2014-15 team, 2015-16 was a rebuilding season. The season began well as **Justin Adofina** and **Julieta Hernandez** won both the CA Classic and the CSULB Spring Classic. **Mindy Vo** and **Diego Duarte** finished as runners up in the CA Classic. In the fall, **Adofina** and **Hernandez** won the CSULB Fall Classic and the Holy Cross Classic and finished 3rd in the University of North Texas School of Law Invitational Tournament. **Vo** and **Myles Cheney** finished 2nd in the Holy Cross Classic. **Adofina** and **Hernandez** were the runners up in the 2015 Upper Midwestern Regional. Both won top orator awards. **Cheney** and Sarah Geesaman (who attends Patrick Henry College), and **Vo** and **Duarte** finished 5th and 6th at the 2015 Western Regional. **Cheney** was named the best orator. All three of these teams earned bids to nationals and all three advanced to elimination rounds. **Cheney** and Geesaman advanced to the Sweet Sixteen and finished 9th in the nation in oral advocacy. CSULB won two national written brief awards: **Zsofia Slovak** and **Ciarra Lofstrom** advanced to the semi-finals of the national petitioner written brief contest, while **Adofina** and **Hernandez** came in 5th in the national respondent written brief contest.



**Thrilling 32 Team, ACMA Nationals 2016:** [L-R] Justice Paul Turner, Justin Adofina, Julieta Hernandez, Judge John Tobin

## Keep in Touch!

Please tell us about your current activities, future plans, and professional or personal accomplishments.

You may send us this information by filling out the form provided below, or by e-mail ([posc@csulb.edu](mailto:posc@csulb.edu)). Please include the following information:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

CSULB degree(s) and year(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Professional and personal news (please indicate if we can include this information in a future newsletter):

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