



Department of

# POLITICAL SCIENCE

# SPRING NEWSLETTER

2020



## *Greetings from the Chair*

Dear alumni, students, faculty, and friends,

May 2020

I write to you this year from my home, where we all have been for well over a month now. It has been a trying time, with the endpoint and future still uncertain. I know that for myself, now more than ever I appreciate my opportunity to work in this department at this university, with so many talented, dedicated, and generous people. I hope that this newsletter will bring a smile in this difficult period, reminding you of the achievements and good works that you and your CSULB political science family have accomplished, and the many contributions that you continue to make.

I hope that you will stay in touch! Please note that you can follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram (@csulbpolisci) and LinkedIn (linkedin.com/company/csulb-department-of-political-science) to stay up to date on the latest department news, events and opportunities!

With best wishes,

Teresa Wright, Chair

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# STAFF NEWS

Our amazing staff—Administrative Support Coordinator **Amelia Marquez** and Administrative Support Assistant **Katie Masterson**—continue to shine, especially throughout the disruption and changes that we have experienced this spring. After having to move all needed materials and equipment to our homes to work remotely, we've had weekly Zoom meetings to keep each other updated and plan for the upcoming week—at least as much as we can plan amidst constant uncertainty! As always, we are hugely appreciative of Amelia's immense wealth of knowledge, savvy, and good cheer. The same goes for Katie—she is exceptional. Katie has some particularly exciting news this year—she got engaged last fall with plans to get married next spring, and she is on track to graduate from CSULB's MBA program in Fall 2020!

# CLUBS & PROGRAMS

## Political Science Student Association (PSSA)

From PSSA Faculty Advisor Dr. **Ed Kaskla**...

The Political Science Student Association continues to offer a venue for students to discuss political issues of the day in a less formal setting than a classroom might allow. Sigh. Remember those days? As in other school years, there was a relatively small group of loyal members augmented by others who would drop in depending upon what the specific topic might be at our bi-monthly meetings.

After the previous PSSA leadership team graduated, the keys were handed to **Sydney Stuttaford**, who presided over the organization until coronavirus shut it all down. Meetings would vary from formal presentations—the analysis of Theodor Adorno's *The Authoritarian Personality* was probably the biggest draw for 2019-2020—to open discussions of current political events. Impeachment was a recurring theme, as one might imagine.

PSSA benefited from using the new social media contact platform that the department put together this year and we hope that this continues once things return to some new normal.

Edgar Kaskla  
PSSA Faculty Advisor  
[Edgar.kaskla@csulb.edu](mailto:Edgar.kaskla@csulb.edu)

## Washington, D.C. Mentoring Program

Now in its seventh year, the Washington Mentoring Program assists CSULB POSC majors seeking a policy career in the Washington D.C. area. Participants are assigned Mentors from among the Department's Washington alumni who work with them and assist in their job search, helping to match their interests with suitable positions inside and outside the Washington bureaucracy. The Department is deeply grateful to our Washington Mentors. Coordinators of the Mentoring Program in the D.C. area are **Lindsey Canaley (BA 2006)**, **Jon Nakagawa (BA 1995)**, **Bernard Togia (BA 1986)**, **Eduardo Cisneros (BA 2006)**, **Fernando Denson (BA 1994)**, and **Devin Benavidez (BA 2010)**. This past year, the Program added one new mentee, its first Master's student, **Danielle Dougall**.

Other students that have joined the program recently include **Ruben Armendariz**, **Alex Cargill**, **Christopher Martinez**, **Jessica Motta**. Others participating in the Program are **Harout (Harry) Bakchaajian (BA 2014)**, **Vanessa de la Rosa (BA 2014)**, **Serafin Rodarte (BA 2015)**, **Karla Galvan (BA 2016)**, **Daisy Gallardo (BA 2016)**, **Jared Shaheryar (BA 2016)**, **Edith Ramirez (BA 2017)**, **Tanner DiPietro (BA 2017)**, and **Daisy Orozco (BA 2018)**.

The Mentoring Program is open to all junior- and senior-level POSC majors as well as graduate students interested in pursuing a Washington policy career. 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.

Application forms for the program are available online:  
<http://www.cla.csulb.edu/departments/polisci/washington-mentoring-program/>. For more information, please contact Professor **Mary Caputi** ([Mary.Caputi@csulb.edu](mailto:Mary.Caputi@csulb.edu)) or Professor **Roger Morton** ([Roger.Morton@csulb.edu](mailto:Roger.Morton@csulb.edu)).

# Model United Nations (MUN)

From MUN Director Dr. **Larry Martinez...**

In November 2019, Model UN and POSC 378 (“Politics and Practice of the UN”) students were invited to participate in the Bonn International Model UN Conference, held at the Center for Science near the UN Headquarters in Bonn, Germany. Students who participated were **Alexandra Guerrero, Daniel Harman, Daniella Hernandez, Karim Housni, Aaron Jordan, Viviana Perez, Miriam Ramos, and Angelo Telucci**. On their first day in Bonn, the University of Bonn conference organizers sponsored tours of the UN Headquarters in Germany, the former legislative offices for the German Parliament during Bonn’s tenure as the capital of West Germany (1949-1999). Great views were provided of the Rhine River Valley from the observation deck.

The Model UN class also attended the University of Southern California Trojan MUN Conference, held October 25-28, 2019 at the Little Tokyo Doubletree Hotel in Los Angeles.



Alex Guerrero, Viviana Perez, Aaron Jordan, Miriam Ramos, Daniella Hernandez, Daniel Harman, Dr. Larry Martinez outside UN Headquarters in Germany.



Dan Harman and Aaron Jordan during a coffee break at BIMUN 2019



At the University of Bonn's Castle Building, BIMUN Delegates line up for group picture

# Moot Court

From Moot Court Director Dr. **Lewis Ringel**...

2019-20 was an outstanding season for moot court. It was especially impressive because it was a rebuilding year. The Fall season began with just one returning Fall advocate.

## Nationals

CSULB's **Vaishalee Chaudhary** and **Marco Romero** advanced to the Sweet Sixteen and finished tied for 9th in the nation in team oral advocacy. This was out of 450 teams that competed this season, placing them among the top 1.89% of the teams in the nation. Their success was tempered only by the fact that they had to beat their classmates, **Amanda Botelho** and **Barry Klein**, in a very hard-fought and closely divided elimination round earlier that day. Botelho, CSULB's highest scoring orator, was voted the 12th best orator in the nation out of the nearly 1,000 students who competed this season.

CSULB did very well in the national written brief contest. Botelho and Klein finished 3rd in the nation in Respondent written brief. Chaudhary and Romero finished 8th in the nation in Petitioner written brief.

CSULB's streak of finishing in the top 10 of written brief stands for 10 straight seasons remained in tack. This is longest such streak in the nation. CSULB's 10-year streak of reaching the sweet 16 is the second longest in the nation. Simply put, CSULB is the only program to have finished among the top ten in BOTH oral and written advocacy over the past decade.

## Regionals

Chaudhary and Romero won the 2019 Western Regional. This marks the 4th Western Regional title for CSULB (7 in total), and the 8th straight season that CSULB has reached a regional final. The second longest streak in the nation. Chaudhary was named the 5th best orator. The competition was recently renamed for the most successful undergraduate moot court coach of all time the late Dr. Frank Guliuzza (1957-2019). Dr. Guliuzza was a long-time friend to many CSULB moot court alums. CSULB was honored to have brought the first trophy to honor Dr. Guliuzza back to Long Beach the site of many friendly battles between teams coached by Dr. Guliuzza and CSULB teams.

Botelho and Klein advanced to the semi-finals of the 2019 Windy City Regional. They finished 3rd overall. **Aleece Hanson** and **Alexis Liautaud** advanced to the quarter-finals finishing 6th overall. This is the fourth straight year that a CSULB team has advanced to the semi-finals of the Windy City Regional.



**CSULB wins the 2019 Frank Guliuzza Memorial Western Regional!**  
Professor Lewis Ringel (Head Coach), Marco Romero, Vaishalee Chaudhary, and Pat Dyson (Assistant Coach)

## Invitationals

CSULB competed in three invitationals. It placed seven teams in semi-finals and won two titles. Chaudhary and Romero defended the 2019 CSULB Fall Classic title in a victory over the College of Wooster and won the 2019 Rocky Mountain Invitational. The final round pitted them against the 2018-19 national runners up from Colorado Christian University. Chaudhary was voted the top orator. Romero, Hanson, and **Itorie Hall** also won orator awards. CSULB placed three teams in the semis and four in the quarters. The year ended with Chaudhary and Romero winning the 2020 Hastings College of Law Moot Court Championship. They defeated a very good team from the University of North Texas. Hanson and Liautaud finished 5th. Romero was named the **David Casarrubias** Top Orator Award (Casarrubias is an alum of both CSULB and Hastings). Chaudhary also won a top orator award.



Amanda Botelho, Professor Lewis Ringel (head coach), and Barry Klein after finishing 3rd in the Nation in Written Brief



## CSULB Wins 2020 Hastings College of the Law Moot Court Championship!

(left) Aleece Hanson, Alexis Liautaud, Barry Klein, Vaishalee Chaudhary, Judy Hails (assistant coach), Marco Romero, and Lewis Ringel (head coach)

# CAMPUS EVENTS



*TLC faculty-student mixer, September 2019*

In Fall 2019, POSC continued to work with the College of Liberal Arts **Transfer Learning Community (TLC)**, creating two sets of paired POSC courses—POSC 300 (Scope and Methods, taught by Dr. **Rich Haesly**) and POSC 323 (Racial and Ethnic Politics, taught by Dr. **Alfredo Carlos**); and POSC 300 (taught by Dr. **Doug Cantor**) and POSC 455 (Comparative Revolutionary Change, taught by Dr. **Ed Kaskla**)—and hosted a number of events specifically designed for transfer students, including faculty-student mixers in September 2019 and February 2020.

On October 7, 2019, the Political Science Department and the Legal Studies Program hosted our first annual **Supreme Court preview**, with a panel of CSULB legal experts discussing and taking questions on the major cases and issues the court will likely decide in 2019-20. Featuring Drs. **Jason Whitehead**, **Lewis Ringel**, and **Kathryn Perkins**, the preview covered topics ranging from DACA, to gun rights, to religious freedom, to transgender rights.



*Alumni Eduardo Cisneros speaking to students on how to use your POSC degree*

On October 8, 2019, CSULB **POSC alumni (BA 2006) Eduardo Cisneros** came to campus for a luncheon with four students, followed by an evening “happy hour” presentation and discussion on **“Using your POSC degree to get a job and have a rewarding career.”** Mr. Cisneros currently is the director of Civic Engagement for AltaMed; he also has worked for SEIU Healthcare, and in the Department of Labor during the Obama administration. These events were supported by TLC funding.

On October 21, 2019 the department co-sponsored an event supported by a College of Liberal Arts Scholarly Intersections Grant, entitled, **“From Criminal Justice to Social Justice,”** featuring panel presentations by Janet Soto, Case Manager at Homeboy Industries; Jose Arellano, Director of Case Management and Navigation at Homeboy Industries; and Justice David A. Thompson, California Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District, Division Three.

## CAMPUS EVENTS (continued)



*Dr. Teresa Wright speaks to student at the Debt by Design Teach-in*

On Nov. 4, 2019 Dr. **Cantor** hosted a **writing workshop for POSC students**. About twenty students attended the workshop, which focused on writing research papers for class, conferences, publications, and writing samples for graduate programs and professional jobs—emphasizing thesis formation, using theory, sourcing, organization, and evaluating results. With TLC funding, student participants enjoyed a light lunch after completing the workshop.

On Feb. 12, 2020, Drs. **Kathryn Perkins** and **Teresa Wright** worked with other members of CSULB's Interdisciplinary Public Square to organize a **teach-in** entitled "**Debt By Design: Unpacking the Real Costs of Higher Education.**" The event featured talks on "Student Debt is a Crisis," by Natalia Abrams, Executive Director, Student Debt Crisis (SDC); "Defunding, Racializing, and Indebting the CSU," by Nathan Carbajal, Representative, Students for Quality Education (SQE); and "Dismantling the Starving Student Narrative: Exploring food and housing security as a part of the university experience," by Dr. Rashida Crutchfield, Associate Professor, School

of Social Work. A variety of community organizations tabled at the event, including the League of Women Voters (LWV), Student Debt Crisis, Veterans for Peace, Students for Quality Education (SQE), the President's Commission on the Status of Women (PCSW), Beach Pantry, Beach Forensics, Student Health Services, and the LBS Federal Credit Union. Over 150 members of the campus community attended the event.

On Feb. 20, 2020, the department worked with the National Latina/o Law Student Association, the Hispanic National Bar Association, the Department of Chicano and Latino Studies, and CLA TLC to sponsor an evening dinner event entitled, "**The 5% Project: The Latinx Law Student Experience.**" The event featured a panel discussion by three Latinx CSULB alumni who are currently in law school, including **Natalie Morales** and **Ben Ayala**.

On March 3, 2020, Dr. **Doug Cantor's POSC 300 students** worked with the LA Votes team at Loyola Marymount University to conduct **exit poll surveys** during **California's primary election**. The excursion was a fantastic success, giving our students a hands-on opportunity to employ the sampling, research design, and survey analysis skills being developed in the class. Our students collected roughly 170 exit poll surveys, mostly in areas with traditionally low voter participation. The data will be invaluable in efforts to increase future voter turnout.



*(from left to right) POSC 300 students James Martinez, Kamra Jackson, and Larissa Gonzalez conducting exit polls during California's March 3 2020 primary election*

# Pi Sigma Alpha Honors Society and Awards Reception

At the spring 2019 annual **Pi Sigma Alpha awards reception**, honors were given to: **Jonah Stoffers** (Outstanding Graduating Senior); **Juan Campos** and **Brian Huang** (Outstanding Graduate Student Awards); **Brisia Gutierrez** (Distinguished Junior Award); **Adam Bantad**, **Michael Faenza**, **Drew Jorgenson**, **Marissa Rael**, and **Jonah Zeko** (Outstanding Achievement Awards); **Beda Castillo** (Edwin Roberts Scholarship), and **Cassandra Acevedo** (Robert Delorme Scholarship). Our Pi Sigma Alpha officers for 2019-20 were: **Amanda Botelho** (President), **Julissa De Haro** (Vice President), and **Rashell Kallmeyer** (Secretary).



Dr. Teresa Wright and Jonah Stoffers



Dr. Mary Caputi and Brian Huang



Dr. Kevin Wallsten and Juan Campos



Dr. Amy Cabrera Rasmussen and Brisia Gutierrez



Dr. Teresa Wright, Jonah Zeko, Marissa Rael, and Drew Jorgenson



Dr. Jason Whitehead and Beda Castillo



Cassandra Acevedo and Dr. Robert Delorme



Anna Sasaki, Gail Hutton, Dr. Lewis Ringel and Jonah Zeko



Dr. Larry Martinez, Matthew Taylor, and Marcus Gerstein



2019 Pi Sigma Alpha Initiates

Sadly, due to the COVID-19 crisis we were not able to hold our planned 2020 awards reception. However, we are happy to recognize our many exceptional student award winners: **Evelyn Ortiz-Soto** and **Stephany da Silva Triska** (CLA Outstanding Baccalaureate Student Award nominees and POSC Outstanding Graduating Seniors); **Matt Segre** (CLA Dean's List of Graduating Master Students Award and POSC Outstanding Graduating MA); **Amanda Botelho** and **Laura DeFrate** (CLA Distinguished Undergraduate Honor); **Emelyne Camacho** and **Danielle Carancho** (CLA Distinguished Graduate Honor); **Minoli De Silva**, **Daniella Hernandez**, **Adrian Reyna**, and **Grant Wilson** (POSC Undergraduate Academic Achievement); **David De La Cruz** (Robert L. Delorme Scholarship); **Celeste Sanchez**, **Raquel Alvarado-Perez**, and **Sariah McDonald** (Political Science Achievement Scholarship); **Nathen Cruz** (Outstanding First Year Masters Student). Our incoming Pi Sigma Alpha officers for 2020-21 are: **Melissa Watanabe** (President) and **Sam Green** (Vice President).

# STUDENT NEWS

## Student Research Accepted for Conference Presentation

### *Undergraduates*

#### **Abby Omolafe**

WPSA 2020 – “The Effects of the Internet on New Voters: How the internet and pressure keep young voters informed.”

#### **Evelyn Ortiz-Soto**

WPSA 2020 – “Queering the Gay Agenda: The Politics of Queer Legal Advocacy Organizations After Windsor.”

#### **Stephany da Silva Triska**

WPSA 2020 – “Beyond quota laws; Obstacles to female successful political campaigns to legislative offices in Brazil.”

### *Graduates*

#### **Lynda Aguayo**

WPSA 2020 – “Food Politics: Monoculture of Crops & Climate Change Aftermath”  
NAACS 2020 – “The Capitalist Food System, Mass Production, and Working-Class People of Color in the United States.”

#### **Emelyne Camacho**

WPSA 2020 and NAACS 2020 – “The Black Diaspora Experience in Neoliberal Mexico.”

## Student Highlights

**Ramon Perez** will enter the CSULB POSC MA program in Fall 2020.

Of the 35 students CSULB inducted into Phi Beta Kappa this year, six are POSC majors: **Javier Alvarado, Beda Castillo, Daniella Hernandez, Lizzet Hernandez, Adrian Reyna, and Christopher Ruiz.**

**Grant Wilson** has been accepted to the Political Science PhD Program at UC Riverside, with full funding and a stipend for the first year.

Former CSULB Model UN President **Marcus Gerstein** has been accepted into the AU School of International Service for graduate studies.

**Adrian Reyna** has been offered admission to a number of law schools, including UCLA, USC, UCI, and Loyola. He is currently making a decision as to which offer to accept, and plans to start law school in Fall 2020.

**Amanda Botelho** will attend UCLA Law School starting in Fall 2020. In Fall 2019, her moot court team advanced to a regional semi-finals and finished 3rd in the nation in Respondent Written Brief. Amanda was named the 12th best moot court oral advocate in the nation.

**Stephany da Silva Triska** was named a Spring 2020 Junior Fellow at the Pacific Council on International Policy.

# ALUMNI NEWS

**Reema Abboud (BA 2011)** practices law in California.

**Justin Adofina (BA 2017)** is graduating from UCLA Law School. He will be employed at Pircher, Nichols & Meeks, LLP. He has been helping judge moot court rounds through ZOOM.

**Jose Alcocer (BA 2016)** earned a Masters of Public Policy from the Sol Price School of Public Policy at the USC in May, 2019. He has been accepted into the Ph.D. program at the USC department of Politics and International Relations, where he will begin working on his doctorate this fall.

**Richard Anthony (BA 1974)** an early zero waste pioneer, Richard started the Cal State University Long Beach – Recycling Center, a model program and training ground for California Recycling activists. He went on to co-found the California Resource Recovery Association (CRRRA) and became its first president in 1975. Richard also co-founded the National Recycling Coalition (NRC), Zero Waste International Alliance (ZWIA), Zero Waste San Diego (ZWSO) and the Save the Albatross Coalition (STAC), which he chairs.

**Timothy Appelbaum (BA 2011)** is graduating from Willamette University School of Law in Salem, Oregon.

**Yasmine Arsala (MA 2015)**. After spending the last two and a half years as a Senior Program Coordinator at Banyan Global, an international development consulting firm based in DC, Yasmine recently accepted an offer with International Rescue Committee as a Gender Equality Program Manager (also based in DC). Yasmine writes, “Big thanks to the MA program and Dr. Haas for helping prepare me for a career in international development.”

**Benjamin Ayala (BA 2018)** is finishing his second year at Loyola law school.

**Krist Biakanja (BA 2013)**, is practicing law in California. In Fall 2019 he helped coach CSULB moot court teams.

**Adria Bonillas (BA 2012)** is Assistant Corporation Counsel at New York City Law Department. She recently became engaged. She has been helping judge moot court rounds through ZOOM.

**Richard Bosanko (BA 2011)** practices law in Oregon.

**Juan Campos (MA 2018 )** is in the PhD Program in Political Science at UC Berkeley. In the fall, he was profiled on the American Political Science Association website: <https://politicalsciencenow.com/apsa-minority-fellowship-program-fall-applications-due-november-1-meet-mfp-fellow-juan-campos/>

**Taylor Carr (BA 2012)** is an Assistant DA in Los Angeles.

**David Casarrubias (BA 2014)** is practicing law with the firm of Hanson Bridgett.

**Ryan Chapman (BA 2013)** is clerking with the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Ryan has helped coach CSULB moot court teams in written briefs for the past five moot court seasons.

**Eduardo Cisneros (BA 2006)** is the Director of Civic Engagement at AtlaMed Health Services, overseeing a voter mobilization and Census 2020 operation focused on LA and Orange Counties.

**Sarah Crawley (BA 2017)** is finishing her first year at Appalachian Law school in Grundy, Virginia.

**Asmita Deswal (BA 2014)** is finishing her second year of law school at the Georgetown University Law Center.

**James Diniwddie III (BA 2014)** earned his MPA at CSULB in 2016. At present, he serves as Deputy Chief of Staff to the Orange County's 5th Supervisorial District and advises on the policy making, administration, operations, and governance of the nation's 6th largest county.

**Diego Duarte (BA 2016)** passed the bar and is practicing law in California.

**Andrew Eisenberger (BA 2011)** is the communications director for Representative Mike Kelly (R-PA).

**Ryan Emery (MA 2017)** is a PhD student at SUNY Albany.

**Maria Etcheverry (BA 2018)** after spending three months in Bolivia, Maria came back to the U.S to work as a counselor for the non-profit, Boys Hope Girls Hope. The program provides housing and services to youth that come from low-socioeconomic backgrounds. Maria assists them in organizing their academic schedule while preparing them for college. Currently, Maria has two part-time positions as a counselor for the non-profit and as a program specialist for Fullerton Community College. She works with the Grads to Be Program where she provides services and resources to undocumented students on campus.

**Jillian Ewan (BA 2011)** is an Assistant DA in Ventura County. She is engaged to be married in July. She has been helping judge moot court rounds through ZOOM.

**Amy Fernandez (BA 2008, MA 2010)** is an attorney in California.

**Nina Flores (BA 2003)** is an associate professor at CSULB.

**Michael Garcia (BA 2003)** started a federal clerkship with the Southern District of Texas.

**Rachel Goldwasser (MA 2015)** works for a civil rights organization, assisting in stopping illegal activities by vigilantes on the southern border and helping to prevent predators from destroying the credit of innocent individuals through fraudulent means. Outside of work, she has used her degree to assist in communicating information about the Rohingya genocide in Myanmar to global stakeholders including the U.N., other NGO's and journalists who were able to stop the perpetuation of further violence and move the Rohingya to safer environments while negotiating with Aung San Suu Kyi's government. Rachel is also the proud mom of her daughter, Mila.

**Edward Gonzalez (MA 2015)** is currently finishing his third year in the USC political science and international relations (POIR) PhD program, where his two fields are international security and foreign policy (ISFP) and Comparative Politics. In March, Edward successfully defended his dissertation prospectus, and is now ABD. The dissertation project is a mixed-methods study exploring the causes of nuclear weapons program termination (nuclear reversals), advancing a new theory that explores two potential pathways for reversals: a voluntary pathway in which countries give up nuclear weapons pursuit due to norm internalization, and an involuntary pathway in which countries give up nuclear weapons pursuit due to coercion from other states. Edward is also a recipient of an APSA Minority Fellowship for the Spring 2019 Cycle, and has presented papers at several conferences.

**Matthew Gunter (BA 2010)** is the Assistant General Counsel for a private mortgage lending company. He is married with a son. He and his wife live in Glastonbury, CT. He has been helping judge moot court rounds through ZOOM.

**Ashley Hall (BA 2014)** passed the bar and is practicing law in the litigation division of with Paul Weiss in New York City.

**Chris Heffernan (BA 2019)** worked for the Elizabeth Warren campaign in Iowa and California. In the Fall of 2019 he helped coach CSULB moot court teams. He has been helping judge moot court rounds through ZOOM.

**Julieta Hernandez (BA 2016)** is a rising 2L At UCLA Law School.

**Jennifer Jacobs (MA 2010)** is an Account Manager at Cengage Learning in San Diego.

**Amethyst Jefferson Roberts (BA 2015)** finished her second year of law school at Howard University.

**Sam Juliano (MA 2014)** coaches cross country and track and field at Foothill High School in Orange County. He finished his teaching credential at CSULB in December.

**Brianna (Wilbur) Krominga (BA 2013)** is an attorney in Texas with Stanton, LLP.

**Karina Laigo (BA 2017)** graduated law school at Cal Western School of Law. She has been helping judge moot court rounds through ZOOM.

**Alexandra Lohman (BA 2011)** earned her law degree at Northwestern University in 2014. At present, she works for the Children's Law Center of California, Los Angeles, representing at-risk youth, specifically minor victims of human trafficking, in foster care. She continues to work with Dr. Ringel and the Moot Court team at CSULB.

Model United Nations alumna, **Kelsie Longerbeam (BA 2017)**, was accepted to Golden Gate University Law School with full free ride, and to the University of San Francisco Law School with a \$30K Dean's Fellowship. Kelsie was an officer in the Model UN Club and helped organize the Long Beach Inter-Collegiate Conference at CSULB in 2016.

**Diego Magana (BA 2019)** will start law school at Loyola University School of Law in the fall. In the fall of 2019, he helped coach CSULB moot court teams.

**Yasmin Manners (BA 2013)** works in the Correctional Law Section of the Attorney General's Office, representing the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation in civil rights actions. Yasmin writes, "It's a wonderful office with a wide range of litigation opportunities in state and federal court, which has allowed me to draw from my political science background and moot court experience at CSULB."

**Jordan Markwith (BA 2010)** is Partner & Managing Director at Capital Strategies in Los Angeles.

**Kyle Maury (BA 2013)** is clerking at the United States District Court for the Southern District of Florida. He is engaged to be married. He has been helping judge moot court rounds through ZOOM.

**Jessica Martinez (BA 2009)** In 2014, Jessica earned her JD at Yale Law School, where she was Managing Editor of the Yale Human Rights and Development Law Journal and participated in the Yale Veterans Legal Services Clinic, representing military veterans in federal court and before administrative agencies on matters related to veterans benefits and discharge status upgrades. Ms. Martinez represents and advises clients in civil matters as well, including matters related to trade secrets and intellectual property. Ms. Martinez also maintains a robust pro bono practice, with a variety of both civil and criminal matters. In addition to representing individual criminal defendants in federal court, Ms. Martinez has also represented clients in asylum proceedings in immigration court, and represents a nationwide class of military veterans challenging the practices of military discharge review boards related to PTSD.

**Erin Mayo-Adam (BA 2008)** is an Assistant Professor in the Political Science Department and the Human Rights Program at Hunter College CUNY. Her new book, *Queer Alliances: How Power Shapes Political Movement Formation*, is coming out with Stanford University Press in summer 2020.

**Ted McNamara (BA 2009)** is an attorney in Miami, FL. He is married and has two children. He has been helping judge moot court rounds through ZOOM.

**Laura Mergenthaler (BA 2014)** is practicing law in California.

**Natalie Morales (BA 2017)** is finishing her second year at Chapman University law school.

**Nicole Opendo (BA 2018)** will start law school at Pepperdine University School of Law in the fall. In the Fall of 2019 she helped coach CSULB moot court teams.

**Tanya Palacios (BA 2014)** has been accepted at Willamette University, College of Law, in Salem, Oregon, where she will be starting the Fall.

**Ali Piane (BA 2018)** is a rising 2L at Southwestern School of Law. She finished in first place in the Southwestern School of Law Moot Court Competition. This summer she is working in the Compton District Attorney's Office. She has been helping judge moot court rounds through ZOOM.

**Kevin Poush (BA 2014)** has started his own legal practice: Westford Law Group. In the Fall of 2019 he helped coach CSULB moot court teams.

**Marissa Rael (BA 2019)** will attend Berkeley Law starting in the Fall of 2020. She has been helping judge moot court rounds through ZOOM.

**Deborah Rowe (BA 2012)** is a Floor Assistant for U.S. House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, working on legislative operations, including running the day-to-day logistics on the House Floor, long-term legislative planning, and managing Members in the Democratic Caucus.

**Zak Show (BA 2018)** has been accepted at the University of Michigan Law School, where he will be starting in the Fall.

**Aaron Sibley (MA 2011)** is an attorney in San Diego with Workman Law.

**Amanda Stayton (BA 2014)** worked as a local, state and federal affairs coordinator for SCAN Health Plan, a local not-for-profit Medicare Advantage Health Plan. She is now the Western Regional Director for Healthcare Leadership Council, a national coalition of chief executives from all sectors of America's healthcare. She builds coalitions in the states and work with members of Congress and their staff to advance 21st century healthcare and recently moved back to Sacramento, California.

**William Sokoloff (BA 1992)** is an Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. He has published a number of works, including *Political Science Pedagogy: A Critical, Radical and Utopian Perspective (Critical Political Theory and Radical Practice)* (Palgrave, 2020) and *Confrontational Citizenship: Reflections on Hatred, Rage, Revolution, and Revolt* (SUNY, 2017).

**Sierra teNyenhuis (BA 2017)** is a rising 3L Loyola University School of Law.

**Samantha Theard (BA 2019)** has been offered admission to a number of law schools, including U.C. Hastings, University of Santa Clara, University of San Diego, Chapman University, U.C. Irvine, Loyola Marymount University, and Pepperdine University. She is currently weighing her options, and she should be starting law school in the Fall.

**Michaelyn Thomas (BA 2007)** earned her Ph.D. She is Head of Affordability and Executive Sponsor of Teammates for Women Empowerment at Virgin Orbit.

**Lilian Truong (BA 2017)** is a rising 2L at Loyola University School of Law.

**Jose Urias Flores (BA 2019)** is working on his MA at Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles, and is teaching through Teach for America.

**Sabrina van der Linden-Gonzalez (MA 2016)** passed the bar and is practicing law in California.

**Mindy Vo (BA 2017)** is a rising 2L at UCS School of Law. She has been helping judge moot court rounds through ZOOM.

**Dillon Westfall (BA 2015)** is an attorney with Gibson, Dunn, and Crutcher.

**June Yoo (BA 2019)** has been offered admission at U.C. Hastings Law School and Chapman University School of Law. He is currently making a decision about where he will wind up in the Fall.

**Benjamin G. Ziff (BA 1985)** was the Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs from 2015-2017.

# FACULTY SCHOLARSHIP AND ACTIVITIES

**Mary Caputi (Political Theory; Ph.D., Cornell University)** During Fall 2019, Professor Caputi taught in the Study Abroad Program in Florence, Italy. She also oversaw students' internships and accompanied them on several field trips. Thanks to CSULB's generous President's Award for Outstanding Faculty Achievement, she was able to travel to several other European countries while abroad in order to conduct interviews pertinent to her nearly completed book manuscript, "Slow Food USA." Her co-authored manuscript "David Reisman and Critical Theory: Autonomy Instead of Emancipation," undertaken with Amirhosein Khandizaji, is also in its final stages. During Spring 2020, Professor Caputi received confirmation that her article, "The Known Footsteps of My Mother: The Power of the Abyss in Elena Ferrante's Neapolitan Quartet," will appear in the online journal, *theory&event*. Professor Caputi also completed her three-year tenure as editor of *Politics & Gender*. She continues to participate in the Department's Washington Mentoring Program.

**Anand Commissiong (Political Theory; Ph.D. Rutgers University)** Dr. Commissiong's current project examines the movements of people and ideas between and among the Caribbean and the United States. It seeks to illuminate the mutual influences on social and political movements and social and political change. This monograph entitled, "Intersecting Cosmopolitanisms," is under contract with Lexington. Dr. Commissiong has presented or will present portions of the monograph at APSA, Association for Political Theory, and the Caribbean Philosophical Association. Dr. Commissiong's article "Where is the Love? Race, self-exile, and a kind of homecoming," was accepted for publication in *Diaspora*. He has also submitted "A 'most difficult (and most rewarding) thing': Baldwin's Queer Race Consciousness," for publication.

**Darin DeWitt (American Politics; Ph.D., University of California, Los Angeles)** Dr. DeWitt presented a paper (co-authored with Matthew D Atkinson) entitled "It's Not a Conspiracy, It's a Collective Action Problem: Can Documentary Films Mitigate the Negative Effects of Conspiratorial Thinking?" at the Conspiracy Theory Conference held at the University of Miami. He also presented a paper (co-authored with Mark A. Peterson) entitled "U.S. National Health, Policy, and Politics: The Public's Views on Health Determinants and Government Interventions" at the 2019 Cooperative Campaign Election Study Conference.

**Larry N. George (International Relations; Ph.D. Princeton University)** Over the past year, Dr. George has returned to a long-delayed book project, provisionally entitled "Pharmacotic Violence 2.0". It brings together his earlier work on "pharmacotic war" (war understood as a form of human sacrifice that functions simultaneously as medicine, poison, and an addictive, performance-enhancing drug for the body politic) with a range of contemporary political theory topics, including terrorism, ISIS, immigration, political identity, Donald Trump and right-wing populism, the opiate crisis, and the Covid-19 pandemic. He presented versions of his research at the annual meeting of the Association for Political Theory in October, 2019, and at the UCLA Political Theory Workshop in November, 2019, and has received a sabbatical leave award to write the book during the spring of 2021.

**Cora Goldstein (Comparative Politics; Ph.D. University of Chicago)** Dr. Goldstein is working on two papers, one exploratory and the other in the last stages of revisions. The first project deals with the initial government of Juan Domingo Peron, and examines the tensions and interactions between populism and liberal democracy. This project interests Dr. Goldstein because it allows her to study a historical case while simultaneously delving into issues of theoretical and political importance. The second study focuses on the visual iconography of WWII in the US, and its role in memory creation. In this paper Dr. Goldstein argues that the version of the American home front made during the war as part of a propaganda narrative, has become part of the visual tapestry shaping our society's collective identity. Dr. Goldstein also continues to advise our graduate students.

**Liesl Haas (Comparative Politics; Ph.D. University of North Carolina)** Dr. Haas continues her research with Richard Haesly on the changing role of religion in American politics. She is conducting fieldwork for two interrelated current projects, which examine the political impact of Latino Evangelicals on Republican politics and efforts by some Evangelicals to pursue racial reconciliation through the conscious creation of multi-ethnic churches. Her presentation of this work at the Western Political Science and Midwest Political Sciences conferences was cancelled, and she looks forward to presenting it next year. This past year she has overseen three student theses, focusing on women's representation in Brazil, obstacles to women's political participation in Latin American more generally, and indigenous self-government in Cherán, Michoacán, Mexico.

**Richard Haesly (Comparative Politics; Ph.D. University of North Carolina)** Dr. Haesly is currently working on three different projects. First, he submitted his article (co-authored with MA alum, **Tyler Kae**), "Changing American Nationalism in Challenging Times" to *Nations and Nationalism*. He is also in the process of analyzing the data collected over Summer 2019 in Scotland and Wales that updates data collection from his dissertation. This project, "Continuity and Change in Scottish and Welsh National Identities" tracks how Scottish and Welsh national identities have—and have not—changed between the late-1990s and today. Finally, Liesl Haas and he are finishing an article, "Multi-Ethnic Churches and Racial Reconciliation," which traces the opportunities and obstacles of Evangelical churches that are trying to forge consciously multi-ethnic congregations as a form of racial and ethnic dialogue and healing. This article is part of their larger research into the political intersections of American nationalism and the changing nature of Evangelical Christianity.

**Charles Mahoney (International Relations; Ph.D. University of California, Los Angeles)** Dr. Mahoney published two papers during the 2019-2020 academic year. The first paper, "Acquire or Expire: Publicly Traded Defense Contractors, Financial Markets, and Consolidation in the U.S. Defense Industry," examines the connections between Wall Street and major U.S. defense corporations. The article was published in *Defense & Peace Economics*. The second paper, "United States Defense Contractors and the Future of Military Operations," was published in *Defense & Security Analysis* and assesses new types of services that defense contractors are supplying to U.S. military and intelligence agencies. Dr. Mahoney also presented a paper titled "Assessing the Islamic State's Strategies of Terrorism," at the 2019 American Political Science Association Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. Dr. Mahoney is currently on sabbatical leave and is a Visiting Scholar at National Yang Ming University in Taipei, Taiwan.

**Larry Martinez (International Relations; Ph.D. University of Santa Barbara)** Dr. Larry Martinez continues to research and publish articles on how outer space and cyberspace will be governed when private companies launch constellations of satellites numbering in the thousands and hundreds of tourists into space. He traveled to Vienna, Austria in June to observe the UN's outer space committee's deliberations and passage of guidelines about tracking and removing space "junk." His 2019 article, "Legal regime sustainability in outer space: Theory and practice," in Cambridge University's *Global Sustainability* journal focuses on how international law is evolving to focus regulatory controls on the new commercial space developments.

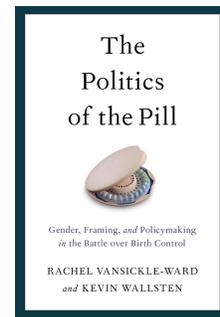
**Kathryn J. Perkins (Public Law; Ph.D. University of North Texas)** Dr. Perkins continues her research on law and social movements through a focus on the queer rights movement in the United States through two significant projects. First, working with POSC graduate **Evelyn Ortiz Soto** (F19), she is examining how queer legal advocacy organizations shifted their agendas in response to opportunities and constraints on their larger movement in the past decade. This research, using an original dataset of several thousand press releases, will be presented at the 2020 Western Political Science Association's annual meeting. Second, she has submitted a proposal, and is actively working on a manuscript, for a book project examining the U.S. Supreme Court's upcoming decision in *Harris Funeral Homes v. EEOC*. The volume will explore the legal history of the case and its larger context in the contentious politics of transgender rights. Dr. Perkins is also excited to begin service as a new academic advisor for Fall 2020-Spring 2021, and to continue her service as the department's internship director.

**Amy Cabrera Rasmussen (American Politics; Ph.D., Yale University, MA and BA CSULB)** This year, Dr. Cabrera Rasmussen, as one of the founding directors, launched the inaugural American Political Science Association Institute for Civically Engaged Research, held at Tufts University in summer 2019. She is also proud to serve as the chair of the first committee to select a recipient of the APSA Distinguished Award for Civic and Community Engagement—which will be announced at the 2020 APSA annual meeting. On campus, she is working to develop a new program—Design Your Long Beach—that facilitates students' crafting of careers to positively impact our community. She continues her research and work with Just Environment Long Beach, a coalition of organizations focusing on environmental health. Her piece about Latinos and health policy was published in the *Oxford Bibliographies of Latino Studies*; it surveys the range of existing research, emphasizing the experience, determinants, impacts, and meaning of health policy as it relates to Latino communities.

**Lewis Ringel (Public Law; Ph.D. University of Maryland)** coaches CSULB's moot court teams and continues to chair the National Case Committee of the American Collegiate Moot Court Association (ACMA). In that capacity, he helped author the 2019-20 national case.

**Kevin Wallsten (American Politics; Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley)** Dr. Wallsten's book (coauthored with Dr. Rachel VanSickle Ward), *The Politics of the Pill*, was released by Oxford University Press in November 2019. Dr. Wallsten also published two pieces in the *Washington Post's* Monkey Cage based on his ongoing research projects - "Should College Athletes Profit from Endorsements? White Americans are Split by Racial Attitudes" (written with Dr. Tatishe Nteta and Dr. Lauren

McCarthy) and "Should Contraception be Sold Over the Counter? AOC and Ted Cruz Aren't Actually Allies on This" (written with Dr. Rachel VanSickle Ward). He also completed work on a paper with Dr. Edward Fogarty addressing populism, austerity policy and democratic responsiveness in the European Union (entitled "Consolidation nations: Fiscal rules and public opinion in the European Union").



**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. He has recently written an article, entitled "Tool or Lens: Worldview Theory and Christian Conservative Legal Activism," which will be published in a forthcoming issue of the *Journal of Law & Religion*. Last spring, he presented a paper entitled, "An Uncertain Trumpet? Examining Recent Christian Conservative Legal Arguments," at the Annual Meetings of the Law & Society Association, Washington, D.C. and the Annual Meeting of the Western Political Science Association, in San Diego, CA. Also in the spring, he was invited to speak on a panel entitled, "How to Create a Faculty Road Map for Successful Pre-Law Programs," at the Annual Meeting of the Pacific Coast Association of Prelaw Advisors at Willamette University, in Salem, Oregon. This year, Dr. Whitehead appeared as a commentator on several TV and radio news outlets, including KTLA, KCAL, Spectrum News, CBS Radio, and KPCC discussing the 2020 Presidential race, the impeachment proceedings, and recent and pending Supreme Court cases.

**Teresa Wright (Comparative Politics, Ph.D. University of California, Berkeley)** In the past year, Dr. Wright's edited volume, *Handbook of Protest and Resistance in China*, was published by Elgar press. She also published a book review in *International Sociology Reviews*. Dr. Wright presented papers on collective contention in China at the *Mobilization Conference on Nonviolent Social Movements* in China and the Western Political Science Association annual meeting. She also gave invited presentations at UC Irvine (in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of China's 1919 May Fourth movement) and UT Austin (in commemoration of the 30th anniversary of China's 1989 student movement), and a contributed a video presentation on the political attitudes and behavior of Chinese youth for the 2020 London School of Economics East Asia Forum. Dr. Wright continues to serve on the editorial board of the *China Quarterly*. In 2019 she was honored to be awarded a CSULB President's Award for Outstanding Faculty Achievement.



# IN MEMORIAM



## Dr. John Anson Warner

*former CSULB POSC lecturer*

Written by **Dr. Ralph Armbruster** (CSULB POSC BA 1990), currently professor and chair of the Chicana/o Studies Department at UC Santa Barbara.

I just discovered that my most influential undergraduate professor and mentor, Dr. John Anson Warner, passed away last year around Labor Day. I met "Doc" as his students called him, in the 1980s. He had a booming, baritone voice. No one slept in his classes. Before high-tech teaching devices were created, Warner used colored chalk and overhead projectors. He lectured on power, focusing on his most beloved scholar, C. Wright Mills. One day Warner said, "In this class we will focus on 3 questions: who has power, how do they perpetuate their power, and what can we do to create change?" Those questions still move me today. Warner became a friend over time. In Hollywood, my best friend and I ran into Doc while we were searching for punk records. Doc said "I believe you should search for better music in the opera section." We went out to lunch many times and he always graded my plate. If I finished, he said, "A," but if I left food on my plate, he would say, "C." He was a tough grader. Doc paid for those meals, with him understanding that I was a "first-generation" college student. He spoke at our wedding, reading from MLK's book, *Strength to Love*. He moved back to Long Beach to care for his ailing father, leaving a tenure track Professor position in Canada. He lectured for many years in Political science and Sociology. His dedication and commitment to his craft and to his students impacted his ability to publish. In academia the old adage, "publish or perish" is real. Doc's lectureship contract was not renewed at CSULB. Students mobilized but to no avail. He got a lectureship at UCR in the 1990s while I was a PhD student in Sociology. But again, with limited publications, he could not get a guaranteed or permanent gig. So he started teaching at the University of Osaka in Japan. While teaching, he started working on publishing, but heavy stress took a toll and he had a major stroke that left him permanently disabled. He moved back to Southern California and lived in an extended care facility for years. His sole sibling, Betty, cared for him but she passed away several years ago. Doc's life was huge. He impacted so many people. It is my mission to share with others what he did for me and many other students. Thank you Doc for inspiring me and leading me to where I am today.

### Keep in Touch!

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

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