



(Photo Credit: Natalie Ikker)

Message from the Chair

While the Winter quarter did not start in the way that any of us had hoped, once again students, faculty, and our hardworking teaching assistants were able to pivot back to remote learning in January and then return to campus - for the strong majority of classes - in February. We recognize that the pandemic is by no means over and know that our students still face a range of challenges.

Still, it has been a joy to see so many of you back in person, in our classrooms and across campus, as this quarter wraps up. Professor after professor has told me how much they love being back, interacting with you all, seeing what you are learning and what needs further exploration. And they all report that students are even more engaged than ever, with so much pent-up intellectual energy coming out on full display. It has been wonderful.



Our department office is now open Monday through Thursday as our excellent staff continues to support you both in person and remotely. In the Spring quarter, more than 90% of our courses were able to be held in person. We will continue to ramp up the in person events, as Europe and the world faces a tumultuous time and as America heads into another election year. We look forward to seeing you along the way!

Thad Kousser
Professor and Department Chair
Department of Political Science, UC San Diego

Department News

Elevating Support for POLI 30(D) and Beyond - A Team Effort



In December 2021, online supplementary instructional modules for the department's "infamous" POLI 30(D) - Political Inquiry - course went [live on its own Canvas site](#), which is accessible to any UCSD student. This course has historically had our highest DFW rate (percentage of students who receive a "D," fail, or withdraw from a course), so the development of such resources for undergraduate students is both timely and important! The department anticipates that the modules will be useful to students beyond POLI 30(D), especially as an increasing number of our upper-division courses and research opportunities require these skills. Each module was designed to address specific POLI 30(D) course learning outcomes and includes a short video explanation of concepts, links to additional supplementary materials, and "knowledge checks" (ungraded quizzes). Students are encouraged to interact with the modules as frequently as needed until they excel on the module's knowledge check.



The idea for this endeavor was lead by graduate students and former POLI 30(D) TAs: Leo Falabella (left), Marco Alcocer (middle left), Alexandra Lange (middle right), and Nicholas Smith (right), who all worked alongside Professor Maureen Feeley (bottom right) on this project to secure funding and facilitate campus support on module design and videography. Their efforts (and results) all stem from their desire to support undergraduate learning and help address opportunity gaps in POLI 30(D) from the material they saw students struggling with. Leo shares, *"The idea for this project came up when we were taking a seminar on evidence-based teaching with Maureen. All of us grad students who TA for POLI 30(D) experienced first-hand how many students struggle with the course, and as we talked about it in the seminar with Maureen we had the idea to develop these resources."* The graduate student research team created a total of 10 modules which reside in a Canvas course entitled "Foundations of Quantitative Research in Political Science". These modules include: 1) Introduction to Resources; 2) Research Questions, Theories, Hypotheses; 3) Introduction to Variables; 4) Confounding and Intervening Variables; 5) Introduction to Inference; 6) Research Design; 7) Hypothesis Testing; 8) Regression Analysis; 9) Working with Data; and 10) Visualizing Data. As mentioned

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above, each module focuses on a subset of POLI 30 course learning outcomes, which in turn align with our major's ["Quantitative Reasoning" program learning outcome \(PLO\)](#): *"Students graduating with a degree in Political Science should be able to demonstrate competency in the logic of measurement and research design, as well as the manipulation and analysis of data sets, in order to better understand political and social relationships."*

Reflecting upon the project, Marco shared that, *"...a very rewarding aspect of the project is that (i) we have evidence that it actually helps students and (ii) that the resource we created is all virtual and self-contained and can therefore be used past this year and past my time here at UCSD. That means that undergraduate students will continue to benefit from our resources even after we graduate from the graduate program. It's a nice legacy to leave."* To add, Leo shared that *"The most rewarding part was that we took advantage of the Research Apprenticeship Program to get undergrads involved with the making of these resources. We had five undergrads working with us, all of which had taken POLI 30(D) before. Having the collaboration of students with experience taking the course was key to improving the resources."* Marco and Leo both agree that if *"...[I] were taking a course like POLI 30(D) and having a hard time, I would have appreciated hearing words of encouragement. **Sometimes students fear POLI 30(D) because they think they "are not good at math" but they are all fully capable of mastering the course.**"*

Professors Scott Desposato, Daniel Butler (who has since departed from UCSD), Peter Galderisi, Thad Kousser, and Jasper Cooper also provided a range of expertise and support for this project along the way, including running preliminary surveys among undergraduate POLI 30(D) courses in Fall 2020 (Peter), piloting the modules in their respective POLI 30D courses in Winter 2021 and Spring 2021 (Scott and Dan), helping develop an innovative research design to assess the modules' impact in Spring 2021 POLI 30D courses (Jasper), and overarching support across the entire process (Thad).

Last, but certainly not least, is a great deal of thanks to our undergraduate students who participated in the preliminary surveys, interacted with the modules during development and the pilot stage, and provided important perspective and feedback on the modules in ways that will benefit future undergraduate students for years to come!

The department page for supplementary instructional resources for POLI 30(D) can be found [here](#).

Undergraduate News

Senior Honors Seminar Program for 2021 - 2022

The Department of Political Science staff and faculty celebrated the 13 Political Science students who earned a level of Honors, High Honors, or Highest Honors at this year's in-person Senior Honors Reception, our first since 2019! This year's Senior Honors Seminar Program was led by co-instructors Professor Phil Roeder and Professor Margaret Roberts, as well as graduate student Bertrand Wilden who served as the course TA, and - fun fact - is also a previous Senior Honors Seminar Program honors recipient! This year's cohort was certainly in excellent hands.



Zoey Jialu Xu (left, Political Science - International Relations B.A.) earned the Sanford A. Lakoff Award for the Most Outstanding Honors Thesis in Political Science; next to her stands Sanford “Sandy” Lakoff, for which the award is named after. Anna Pelz (middle, Political Science - Data Analytics B.S.) earned the DeWitt Higgs Award for the Most Outstanding Honors Thesis in Law and Public Policy; next to her stands Thad Kousser, Professor and outgoing Department Chair. Finally, Maya Lu (right, Political Science - Data Analytics B.S.) earned the Arend Lijphart Award for the Best Overall Performance; next to her stands Lawrence Broz, Professor and incoming Department Chair.

To earn a level of Honors or higher, a student in the [Senior Honors Seminar Program](#) must complete POLI 191A and POLI 191B, have a Political Science GPA of 3.6 or higher, and earn an average thesis score of at least 3.6. For students interested in participating in the Senior Honors Seminar Program for the upcoming academic year, please review the webpage for more information, including past Honors theses since 2012. This upcoming program's application, required materials, and eligibility criteria must be completed by Monday, September 12, 2022. After this deadline, students will be notified of their acceptance into the program and granted preauthorization to enroll in POLI 191A for the Fall 2022 quarter.

Alumni Mentor Program for 2021 - 2022

The Department of Political Science's [Alumni Mentor Program](#) welcomed junior and senior students to connect with the Department's diverse alumni. Over 40 students participated in the program and were matched with a Career Mentor and an Exploratory Mentor; the Career Mentor is working in a role that aligns closely with a student's current career aspirations, while the Exploratory Mentor can share their perspectives on a career field that differs slightly from a student's initial plans post-graduation. Since the program is in its fifth year and still relatively new, we welcomed the alumni and participating students to share their feedback on the benefits of the program and aspects to improve. We plan to use this feedback to further strengthen the program in the upcoming 2022 - 2023 academic year. A sincere "thank you" to the 30+ mentors who participated this year!

Research Apprenticeship Program for 2021 - 2022

The Research Apprenticeship Program is a fantastic way for Political Science students to enhance their research and data analysis skills through a hands-on approach, especially in a remote fashion. This year, the Department had 40+ students serving as research assistants for 14 different projects, which are overseen by graduate students in the department's Ph.D program. By participating in the Research Apprenticeship Program, students gain research experience that is highly valued by a variety of employers and graduate programs.

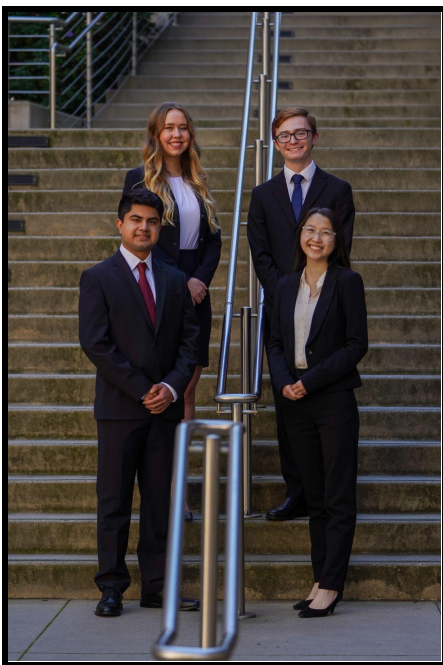
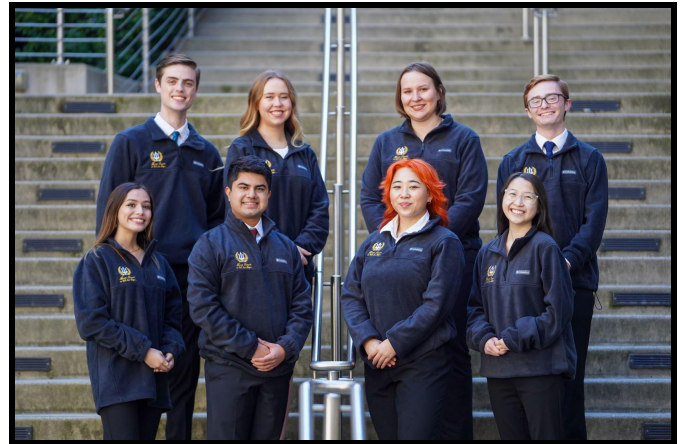
Students serve as research assistants for 12 hours per week during the Winter and Spring quarters; they also have the opportunity to write a research seminar paper of at least 20 pages under the guidance of the graduate student in Spring Quarter. More information on the Research Apprenticeship Program, including a detailed FAQ section and student feedback about the program, can be found [on the Department's website](#). For students interested in applying to the program in next year's cycle, please keep an eye out for emails about the program in mid-Fall 2022!

Student Organization Highlight: Moot Court at UCSD

UC San Diego is home to hundreds of student organizations, many of which have been around for decades, some for a few years, and a few new ones pop up every year! Of the many student organizations one can choose from, Moot Court at UCSD is one to check out if it piques your interest. Written from the perspective of Clayton Allen, President of Moot Court and a Political Science - Public Law and Philosophy double major, read more about the organization below.

Their Story

All of our team members met in some fashion through participation in various on-campus pre-law organizations. We decided to start this moot court team because while other pre-law activities such as speech & debate, mock trial, and model UN had presences at UCSD, we noticed a distinct lack of moot court. Starting this program from scratch seemed like a worthwhile undertaking because it seemed to sit at the intersection of a number of our shared interests -- practicing oral advocacy through competition simulations, debating the finer details of Supreme Court cases, discussing judicial history, or otherwise learning the skills to better understand legal material with. Moot court was the obvious answer to tying those activities together. It also seemed like a good way to get some marketable skills. And it seemed fun.



After we found our team advisor, Professor Nichter, we began preparing for our first competition season. A summer of reading court cases, discussing relevant material, and adapting lessons from political science courses at UCSD to apply to this season's particular legal issue, culminated in our tournament season that began in Fall Quarter. Given that it was our inaugural season, our small, student-run team did not expect to be performing on the same level as many of the more established teams in the undergraduate moot court circuit, some of which were even led by professors and attorney coaches. It's safe to say that our expectations were blown out of the water. We knocked down several much better established, funded, and staffed teams. A stack of awards and an upset regional win against Yale cemented our first regular season among the best any first-year student-run team has ever had.

Recent Major Accomplishments

We came in 1st at arguably the hardest regional in the country, beating out teams including UCSB, USC, Duke, and Yale. We placed three competitors in the top 10 for Orator Awards, including Katie Lucius taking the number one orator award. We advanced two teams to the national tournament. At nationals, we advanced to

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the second day, beating out more than half the top teams in the country. Though I can't give any hard numbers about nationals (rankings haven't been announced yet) I can tell you one of our competitors (Solomon Malcolm) came in 5th place overall for national orators. The outcomes at Nationals place us now in the top 20 for oral advocacy in the country, and likely 5th on the West Coast. These numbers are some of the best that any first-year team has ever put up – a cut above even most well-established programs.

Insight from Clayton Allen, President of Moot Court

1. What made you decide to join Moot Court?

I first started doing Moot Court in high school because I thought it would be a fun way to hone my public speaking skills. I ended up sticking with it until I graduated, because the people I met there were unlike anyone else I knew on campus. I loved being surrounded by students that shared my interests in law and rhetoric. We started the team at UCSD largely for the same reason. A group of like-minded students and I were interested in honing our speaking skills, as well as learning more in-depth about various modern legal issues. Moot Court offered us a unique opportunity to pursue those interests. Significantly more on that in the attached document.

2. Who should join Moot Court, and how can people join if they are interested?

Frankly, it's my view that everyone should join Moot Court. That said, we probably appeal to people who are driven to know more about arguments and about the law -- people who want a venue to think about the law in a way that will challenge them, and to learn more about how to write and make arguments. We release information on try outs (including dates and a tryout packet) via our Instagram. Students interested right now can fill out the interest form in our Instagram bio, or shoot us an email at mootcourt@ucsd.edu.

3. What are some of the benefits that a member would get from participating in Moot Court?

Membership to our program offers competitors a place to practice the sorts of challenges that will face them in law school and beyond – legal analysis and research, argument construction and writing, and of course performance in the courtroom. It also gives them access to the other competitors – a group of similarly talented and driven undergraduate legal minds. Finally, and most importantly, completing a season with our team nets every member a sharp team-embroidered quarter zip. I wear mine almost every day.

4. What challenges has the team overcome in recent years, especially in regards to COVID-19?

This first season has been a bit rocky, in large part because of the pandemic. It's been hard not getting to argue in person, because many presentation skills can only show up in a physical courtroom. Running our meetings online has been a bit more difficult, too, because it makes discussion a lot slower. We've gotten by very well despite the online world. We're fortunate in that most of our work translates well to the medium. It's certainly saved us a lot of money on tournament travel costs.

5. Where do you see the team growing in the future?

In the future, our team hopes mostly to get bigger. We want to engage with as many students as possible these upcoming quarters. We're looking to focus more next season on the written brief aspect of Supreme Court

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argument, rather than just the oral advocacy stuff. We're hoping to engage better with the local legal community, including some proper alumni and networking events. We've also been considering hosting a tournament of some kind, to make sure Southwestern teams get the opportunity to compete before the regular season. That last one might be more than a year out.

6. What else are you involved in at UCSD? What do you plan to accomplish or pursue after graduating from UCSD?

Outside Moot Court, I'm personally also involved in a fraternity. The team collectively has previous and current involvement with the Speech and Debate Team, the Model UN team, the Mock Trial Team, and the Associated Students, as well as a host of other social and artistic organizations. Our competitors largely all want to pursue law school after college, though they're not all dead set on it. After graduating my current plan is to attend the best law school that will have me. I haven't planned after that.

7. Anything else that you would like to share?

The only other thing I wanted to add is that the team owes its success to the great efforts of every one of our competitors, and that I'm deeply proud of all of them. Starting and running this team has been one of the most fulfilling things I've done since I got to college. One final shout out to our VP, Natalie Barrios. This team wouldn't exist without her.

Winter 2022 & Spring 2022 Undergraduate Professional Development Workshop Series

While UC San Diego welcomed students back to a mainly in-person environment, we kept to virtual workshops in order to reach the most amount of students!

Prestigious Scholarships and Fellowships: Fulbright, Critical Language Scholarship & The Boren

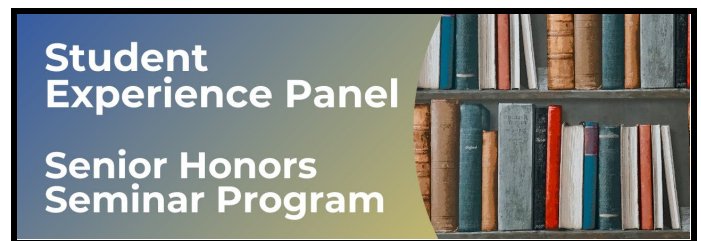


Students heard from Study Abroad Advisor, Andra Jacques, about funded study and research travel opportunities through the United States government, including the [Fulbright](#), the [Critical Language Scholarship](#), and the [Boren Award](#). These prestigious opportunities are highly competitive and sought after, so please take time to explore them early to see if they are a great fit with your professional goals!

You may find the recording of the workshop [here](#). To connect with Andra further, or another member of the [Study Abroad office](#), please do so via the Virtual Advising Center.

Student Experience Panel – Senior Honors Seminar Program

The quarter started off strong with a panel of five Senior Honors Seminar students who shared the challenges and rewards of their experience in the Department of Political Science's Senior Honors Seminar Program. They also discussed why they pursued the program, what they have learned from partaking in the program, the steps they took to prepare for the program, and their post-graduation goals.



With 13 students earning a level of Honors, High Honors, or Highest Honors in the program this year, the Department has been impressed with their academic excellence in submitting quality theses and students' resiliency in persevering through the continued COVID-related difficulties impacting so many individuals, both personally and professionally. Missed the panel? You can catch the recording on the Department's YouTube page [here](#).

Thinking of applying to the program this next academic year? This upcoming program's application, required materials, and eligibility criteria must be completed by Monday, September 12, 2022. Please send a Virtual Advising Center message to the department if you have any questions.

Triton Transfer Hub - Maximizing Your Next Year as a Transfer Student

The [Triton Transfer Hub](#) is a space that “provides resources, services, and programs to empower Triton Transfers to achieve their goals as they navigate UC San Diego's academic and cultural landscape” and helps transfer students to be seen, heard, and engaged in the campus community.

In April, students heard from Aurora Solano, a Triton Transfer Hub Student Assistant and Political Science major, and Natalie Ikker, Undergraduate Student Affairs Advisor for the Department of Political Science, in a workshop on “Maximizing Your Next Year as a Transfer Student”. They discussed how transfer students can maximize their remaining time at UC San Diego while balancing academic responsibilities, co-curricular involvement opportunities, and planning for future goals.

A UCDC and UCCS Political Science Alumni Experience Workshop

In a panel coordinated by Anna Pelz, UCDC/UCCS Peer Advisor in the UCSD Academic Internship Program, and moderated by Natalie Ikker, Undergraduate Student Affairs Advisor for the Department of Political Science, students interested in both the UCDC Program and UC Center Sacramento Program heard from recent alumni of these programs about their internships and the benefits of participating in the programs!

The UCDC Program is an academic internship program providing UCSD students with the opportunity to intern for a quarter in Washington D.C. while enrolling in UC courses and living in the UC Washington Center. The UC Center Sacramento Program is an opportunity for students, especially those interested in public policy or journalism, to intern for a quarter in Sacramento while enrolling in specific courses through UC Davis. For those interested in either program, please [contact UCDC Coordinator for the UCSD Campus, Jennifer Homrich](#), to set up a meeting, or review the [website](#) for updates and application materials.

BA/MIA, BA/MPP, and BA/MIA-PS Student Panel & Joint Degree Program Application and Personal Statement Workshop

This quarter, the Department of Political Science and School of Global Policy and Strategy collaborated on a number of workshops to inform students about the newly created Political Science - International Affairs B.A./Master in International Affairs Joint Program, how to prepare for the application process, and develop a compelling personal statement. These workshops were all recorded, and students can find them on our [Department YouTube Page](#).

For information about the Political Science - International Affairs major, please review its [webpage](#) on the Department of Political Science website. Students who have questions about the Master of International Affairs component of the joint program can connect with [Dr. Nancy Gilson](#), Director of Academic Degree Programs at GPS.

Krinsk-Houston Law & Politics Initiative Events

What I Wish I Knew Before Attending Law School Event

Moderated by the Department of Political Science's Law & Politics Director, Maysa Nichter, this event had a virtual panel of recent law school graduates from across the country who shared their insider tips and tricks for succeeding during law school. This virtual event welcomed students from all academic levels and majors, given the diversity of those who pursue law school. Students' questions were shared in advance, with many more also addressed in the chat and during the ending Q+A!

Law and Policy Practice Areas Mixer: A Conversation with Attorneys and Policy Makers

Also moderated by the Department of Political Science's Law & Politics Director, Maysa Nichter, this virtual event focused on a panel of attorneys from various sectors of the law, including government, public interest, in-house, and in private law firms. Students of all academic backgrounds and levels were invited to attend, and heard from panelists about their law school journey and answers to questions asked before and during the event.

We plan to have Law and Politics Initiative events again in the new academic year - see you in Fall!

Law School Launch

On May 20th, the Krinsk-Houston's Law & Politics Initiative's "Law School Launch" went on tour! Developed by Director Maysa Nichter, this is an all-day event to support students with a strong interest to pursue a career in the legal profession. This event is an opportunity for students to gain essential skills and perspectives before their first quarter in law school.

The day started with a trolley ride together to the UCSD Park and Market location in downtown San Diego. Once there, students listened in and engaged in essential skills presentations and exercises led by Assistant Dean Mary Basick from UCI School of Law, as well as Assistant Dean Kiyana Kiel from Cal Western School of Law. The morning lectures closed with an intimate chat with Judge Marcella McLaughlin from the California Superior Court (and UCSD alum), who spoke about her rise to the bench and generously offered tips and lessons learned from her years in practice and on the bench.

After a delicious catered lunch, the group departed from Park and Market to the new Central Courthouse, where Ms. Amoreena Urbeck, Director of the JusticeCorps Program, led the group on a tour of the courthouse and provided the group an opportunity to speak with judges as well as to observe a court hearing on a criminal matter. From there, the student continued on to the San Diego District Attorney's Office, where they were met by District Attorney Leon Schorr (also UCSD alum) and a group of DA's. Each presented and shared their path into the legal profession, and specifically their choice to serve the public as a District Attorney.

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Overall, it was a fantastic day of learning, community-building, and inspiration. Students were especially excited to meet and befriend fellow students who shared the same interest, make connections with key local community members in the profession, and to gain essential skills and inspiration to continue their path towards law school and ultimately, a career in the law.

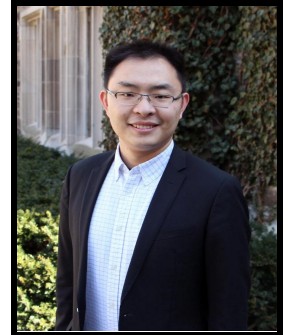
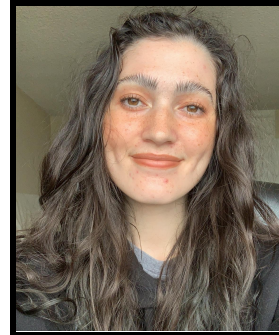
See below for some fun pictures of students enjoying the day's activities!



Graduate News & Accomplishments

Kim Renk, Giulia Corno, and Yan Liu Earn the Marsha Chandler Fellowship

Graduate students Kim Renk (left), Giulia Corno (middle), and Yan Liu (right), who have all been awarded the Marsha Chandler Fellowship. The fellowship is awarded each year to political science graduate students in recognition of their academic excellence in their first and second year of the program.



Congratulations to this well-deserved recognition of your work!

Bianca Freeman Awarded the Inaugural UC President's Pre-Professoriate Fellowship



Congratulations to Bianca Freeman who was awarded the inaugural UC President's Pre-Professoriate Fellowship for the 2022-23 academic year!

The University of California (UC) Office of the President launched the UC President's Pre-Professoriate Fellowship (PPPF) as part of its Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI) Doctoral Diversity Initiative (DDI) on September 30, 2019. The program's goal is to enhance faculty pathways for historically underrepresented groups, particularly Chicanx/Latinx, African Americans, American Indians/Native Americans, Filipinx, and Pacific Islanders in all disciplines; women in STEM; and Asian Americans in the humanities and social sciences. The intent of the program is

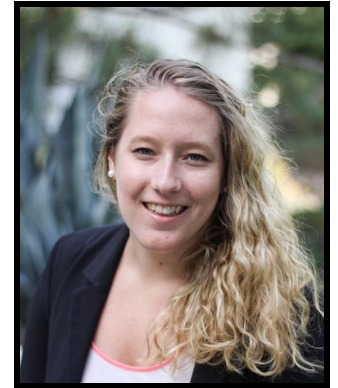
to provide fellowships for domestic historically underrepresented minorities from federally-designated California HSIs. This UC PPPF is only available to UC doctoral students who are matriculated in academic PhD programs and have advanced to candidacy.

In the words of Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, Christina Schneider, *"This is a wonderful recognition of Bianca's terrific scholarly work and so well deserved!"*

Rachel Schoner Awarded a Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance at Princeton University for 2022-23

Many congratulations to Rachel Schoner, who was awarded a well-earned postdoctoral fellowship at the Niehaus Center for Globalization and Governance at Princeton University for the 2022-23 academic year!

Many of our graduates move into exceptional academic and non-academic opportunities post graduation, which you can find on our department website [here](#).



Andres Gannon Awarded the Prestigious Stanton Nuclear Security Fellowship at the Council of Foreign Relations.

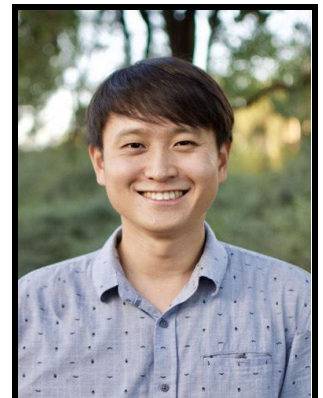


Lots of excellent news pertaining to our graduate students this quarter, and we are always happy to recognize their successes! Andres Gannon was awarded the prestigious [Stanton Nuclear Security Fellowship at the Council of Foreign Relations](#). The Stanton Nuclear Security Fellowship, sponsored by the Stanton Foundation, offers younger scholars studying nuclear security issues the opportunity to spend a period of twelve months at CFR's offices in New York or Washington, DC, conducting policy-relevant research. While in residence full time at CFR, selected fellows will be expected to lead a project of their own design, conduct original research, and write at least one policy-relevant document. The fellows will also be mentored by the fellows of CFR's David Rockefeller Studies Program.

D.G. Kim Awarded the Rapoport Family Foundation Dissertation Award

Congratulations to D.G. Kim, who was recently awarded the [Rapoport Family Foundation Dissertation Award](#). The Rapoport Family Foundation was founded in 2019 and has three focus areas, as explained on their website: 1) Support research in American political behavior by PhD students, 2) Provide seed funding to new, innovative projects and organizations seeking to improve civic engagement in the United States, and 3) Support efforts to bridge divisive partisanship in the United States.

This is a great way to showcase well-deserved recognition of your work, D.G.!



Laura Uribe and Devin Wright Awarded the APSA Diversity Fellowship



Many congratulations to Laura Uribe and Devin Wright (not pictured) who both were awarded the [APSA Diversity Fellowship](#)! From the American Political Science Association website, *"The APSA Diversity Fellowship Program (formerly known as the APSA Minority Fellowship Program or MFP) is a fellowship competition for individuals from underrepresented backgrounds applying to or in the early stages of doctoral programs in political science... Each fall, the DFP awards between 12-14 funded fellowships in the amount of \$5,000 over two years to students applying to doctoral programs in political science. Each spring, the DFP offers fellowships to graduate students in the pre-dissertation stage of their doctoral program."* Congratulations to you both!

Three Graduate Students Selected as 2022-23 International Institute Fellows at UCSD

Graduate students ShahBano Ijaz, Adam Fefer (not pictured) and Geoff Hoffman were selected as [2022-23 International Institute Fellows at UCSD](#). The International Institute at UCSD, "brings together scholars with international expertise from across divisions and disciplines to address pressing problems and increase knowledge of international issues". Congratulations on this well deserved recognition of excellence!



Triple Congratulations to ShahBano for Multiple Dissertation Fellowships



In addition to being awarded the International Institute Fellowship, ShahBano earned three additional dissertation fellowships:

1. [The Yankelovich Center](#) for Social Science Research Fellowship
2. [Princeton University Bobst Center for Peace and Justice Dissertation Fellowship](#)
3. [ISA Dissertation Completion Fellowship](#)

From Director of Graduate Studies, Professor Christina Schneider, *"Congratulations, ShahBano! This is an amazing feat and so very well deserved."*

We are all very happy for you for these various recognitions of your excellence."

Christina Cottiero Receives Honorable Mention in the School of Social Science Dissertation of the Year Award

A recent PhD alumni of the Department of Political Science, Christina Cottiero was awarded an Honorable Mention in the School of Social Science Dissertation of the Year Award. From Department Chair, Professor Thad Kousser, *"You [Christina] are the sole winner of this, and in fact the Honorable Mention recognition was something that the award committee created anew this year specifically because they wanted to spotlight your excellent work (which was apparently very nearly the overall winner). They wanted to ensure that you knew how impressed they were and had a recognition that you could place on your CV as you begin what we are all confident will be an illustrious career"*. Congratulations, Christina!



Nick Smith Awarded the Koch Foundation Dissertation Grant and the 21CCC Ichimore Research Award



Many congratulations to Nick Smith, who has recently been awarded with the Koch Foundation Dissertation Grant and the 21CCC Ichimore Research Award. These are well deserved recognitions of your research, congratulations Nick!

The Charles Koch Foundation is, *"interested in supporting scholarship that can help policymakers improve their foreign policy decisions"* and welcomes applications that relate to various areas of U.S. foreign policy.

The 21st Century China Center Ichimore Student Research Award, "supports research activities by current UC San Diego students (individuals or groups) that are focused on the study of mainland China, Taiwan and overseas Chinese communities" in which the subject matter can include politics, economy, society and culture, and international relations.

Rachel Schoner Honored by the APSA Law and Courts Section

Congratulations to Rachel Schoner, who was awarded with the best graduate student paper award by the APSA Law and Courts Section. This is a wonderful recognition of your research!



Eddie Yang Awarded the CDDRL and HAI Predoctoral Fellowship at Stanford University



Congratulations to Eddie Yang, who was awarded the [CDDRL](#) and [HAI](#) Predoctoral Fellowship at Stanford University! Fellows spend the academic year at Stanford University completing their projects, participating in seminars, and interacting with each other and the resident faculty and research staff.

Undergraduate Student Accomplishments

More Than Good Enough: Being First-Gen at UC San Diego

After sharing a bit of [her story in The Guardian](#), Valeria Rodriguez, a first year Political Science - Race, Ethnicity, and Politics major, expands on her experience as a first generation college student at UC San Diego below.

1. What made you decide to be a Political Science major, specifically within the Race, Ethnicity, and Politics concentration?

I chose to attend UC San Diego to stay close to home while studying something I am passionate about. From the beginning, I knew I wanted to study Political Science and got into great schools for my major. However, I am majoring in this specific field of study because I am interested in having a better understanding of how politics work in the United States while also being educated on the ethnic and racial differences in this country and in other regions in the world. A strong influence I had choosing this concentration was growing up as a low-class Latina. Attending schools where the majority of the students who looked like me often came from a lower class whereas students who were white were often in middle or high class. I believe seeing the privileged students had often shaped their mindset into avoiding situations that often included racial discrimination, double standards, poverty, and other social issues. Social media had a big impact on seeing how privileged individuals seemed to not care about the Black Lives Matter movement or making microaggression comments were seen as 'humor' instead of taking into consideration how it can offend someone. Therefore, I am now studying this field of study to have a bigger understanding of how different regions encounter their racial and ethnic differences in hopes of using this knowledge as an advantage of creating a more accepting and peaceful society. It's easier said than done, but taking the step into studying this concentration and keeping an open mind helps me receive a better comprehension of how to be a more civil and understanding human being.



2. What has helped your transition to UCSD? What are some of the obstacles that have made it more difficult than anticipated?

First, I would like to mention that making two friends at a big school makes a huge difference. I thank Sophie Parra and Marvyn Villanueva for always being there for me since the start of Summer Bridge. As a commuter student, it has always been hard for me to go to events or talk to new people. But I met these two individuals during Summer Bridge when we were all taking the course, AWP 10. Throughout the Winter Quarter, we would meet almost every Tuesday for 'brunch' and were able to catch up about our classes, life, etc. I think making a close connection with these two has helped me transition socially into college because I know I have someone by my side.

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Second, transitioning into school from an academic perspective has been a bit challenging. I believe the term 'imposter syndrome' perfectly explains how it has felt these past few months at UC San Diego. This term can be easily used, but the feeling is sometimes overwhelming. And sometimes I think of it as normal, especially in present-day society. But I also find it quite motivating. I seem to be my worst enemy and the one who brings myself down the most. However, if it wasn't for the challenge, I would probably be bored, or life would be too simple. Thus, I struggle every now and do often believe I do not deserve a spot at the school or that my work is not 'enough'. And for the students who struggle with this as well, you are not alone. I hope you are gentle with your mind and heart, because even though it is very overwhelming, working hard right now in school is already a big accomplishment. You can overcome the obstacles and challenges as a college student, and that is succeeding already. So some advice to those who struggle with imposter syndrome, it is not easy to get rid of. No matter how many times I tell myself to not worry, I worry even more. But it is all a process with yourself and finding balance of what makes you happy. It is good to work hard, but it is even more important to care for your mental health and make sure to create special memories (whether it is with yourself or with your friends).

3. How can professors best support first-generation students at UCSD?

Professors can be more understanding and have more sympathy. Because even though it is easier said than done, trying to comprehend what a first-generation student went through can be difficult if one did not go through a similar/the same path. Therefore, I think professors can be really supportive if they take time to listen to what a student has to say instead of just coming to office hours and asking a basic question over a calculus equation. And sometimes it can be difficult for professors to listen to all their students at once because some classes are filled with over 100 students. But recently, my Math 10A professor, Professor Bowers, sent a google form with questions on how they can improve the course and help comprehend the material better. The form was completely anonymous, so the main focus of the form was to hear different techniques the professor can use in hopes of benefiting the students for the remainder of the quarter (and even future quarters).

I think another technique is extending office hours, and I know some professors are very limited with their time, but sometimes some hours do not fit in with a student's schedule. This, setting up appointments, and getting the attention from the professor can be helpful because a student is heard and is shown effort in being helped by the professor. These two techniques can be useful for a lot of students in the class, but I think it can help bring awareness of how many students, especially first-generation students, can have the chance to speak their opinion in a manner that allows the professor to see their side of the story.

4. What advice do you have for other first-generation students who resonate with your story?

I would like to say that everything is okay. And when I say it is okay, I actually mean that each student who is the first in their family to go to college, or even apply to college, accomplished so much. I personally have struggled with the concept that everything I do is not good 'enough' or that I am going to fail in the end. Sometimes I even question if it is worth it because I am terrified of the outcome. But I believe I will be okay. And I know that each student who had to adapt to a system that was not made for us will be okay. Because learning how to overcome the system, and the stereotypes of what it takes to be a 'successful graduate', is a

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great accomplishment. Each one of us goes through a different pace. Each one of us is learning what we want to do in the world. Each one of us is focusing on learning and growing each day. And it is okay. It is okay how you are doing in your progress. I hope that every first-generation student values their work because it is not easy, especially being the first one to do it without guidance. We are called first- generation for a reason, because we are the first to break the system and make our mark. It is all okay, and it will be okay.

5. What programs, opportunities, or other ventures do you hope to partake in while a student at UCSD? Are you currently involved in anything on or off-campus?

As a first- year at UC San Diego, I am part of [OASIS Summer Bridge](#). I was able to meet some of the friends I have now and adjust to the academic courses offered. During the summer, I took AWP 10 and PSYC 1. These courses were interesting to me because I was able to find interest in how the human mind works and decided to continue taking courses in Psychology for my GE requirement. AWP 10 was also an interesting course because it educates us on how society often has an influence on whether or not there is a change [for the better] in the system. It makes us question how we can become better humans in order to live in peace, acceptance, and most important, equality.

Since I am a commuter, I have two jobs off-campus. I began working a few weeks after the Fall quarter began. The first job I have is working at Target. I work at a Target that is 40 minutes away from campus. I really enjoy working in retail because it helps me strengthen my communication, patience, and time management. The second job I work at is in my old high school, Rancho Buena Vista, as an AVID Tutor. I was part of AVID all throughout my four years in high school. Now, I tutor after school which ranges from 2-3 hours. I like having both of these jobs because they help me prepare for the long run of what it is like working with others and how I should enjoy the work I do. I love working with my coworkers and I am happy I got to meet them these past few months and create friendships with them as well.

6. After graduating from UCSD, what are some short- and long-term goals you would like to achieve?

A short-term goal I would like to achieve is to visit Paris, France. This is a short-term goal I would like to accomplish after graduating college because I have never traveled outside of North America. The reason I would like to visit Paris, France is because of my favorite movie, known as Monte Carlo. The main character played by Selena Gomez is seen as an introverted student who had just graduated and used all her savings to go on a trip with two of her friends. This movie has a special connection to who I am as a person because I always struggled with the idea of 'not having a purpose'. In the end, the main character is seen to have an epiphany and realize she wants to use her time by helping out with the education system, such as volunteering in low income communities and help build programs for students to have an opportunity to receive an education. I idolize this story because even though I am certain I want to be a lawyer and attend law school, I am not quite sure which form of law to pursue. There are multiple opportunities and different branches to follow, but I still am not quite sure what my purpose is in this world.

Long term goals after graduating from UCSD is to attend law school and be the first in my family to become a lawyer. As I mentioned before, I am still quite struggling with which form of law I would like to follow, but I am

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focused on still attending law school. Law programs I have been looking into are Stanford, UCLA, and Pepperdine. I like these law programs because they are very rigorous, but are known to prepare the students for any type of work. I also would like to stay in California for my education, and hopefully find job opportunities in La Jolla. These past few months have shown me how beautiful La Jolla truly is, especially being close to the beach. Since I spend all my free time at the beach, I hope to keep the water close to me as I grow. But overall, time will tell and my wishes may change as I continue to learn new things and experience different lessons.

7. Anything else you would like to share?

Something else that I would like to share is for all students, and I just hope that each student reading this would give themselves a round of applause (not literally, but if they would like). Pursuing an education, especially through a global pandemic, has not been easy. There have been so many challenges of learning how to adapt to online and some even hybrid. But the students have shown perseverance and have overcome the difficulty of trying to get through these years while the world was falling apart. And I hope each student is proud of how far they have come, especially during these past two years.

Volunteering With The Legal Aid Society of San Diego



Kyra Woodland, a Political Science - International Relations and Global Health double major, shares more about their experience as a volunteer with the [Legal Aid Society of San Diego \(LASSD\)](#) below!

1. How did you first find out about the opportunity to volunteer at LASSD? After deciding I wanted to apply to law school, I consulted with one of my professors and decided to research San Diego's Legal Aid Society to see if they had any openings. They had a volunteer application form on their website and it was

really as simple as that!

2. What type of skills do you use in your position? Is there a skill (or skills) that you have learned and/or strengthened in your time volunteering at LASSD?

Interpersonal skills were key in my volunteering experience with LASSD. Clinic participants were often dealing with incredibly precarious situations, such as impending evictions or seeking restraining orders, and it was important for me to be a balance of professional and compassionate. Clinic participants often felt relieved just having someone to explain to them the necessary steps to take in their situations, but many of them also expressed appreciation for simply having someone listen and take their concerns seriously. I was also able to strengthen my attention to detail through becoming more familiar with the nuances of terminology in legal documents and proceedings; a few words could completely change the defenses a clinic participant could raise in some scenarios.

3. What does a typical day (or shift) look like for you?

My shifts often consisted of working with a few clinic participants with different concerns throughout the day. The civil harassment and elder abuse restraining order clinic was only open for the first half of the day, so I would often assist clinic participants seeking restraining orders first. They would fill out a brief intake form, and then when I would transfer their intake responses into the necessary court forms, they would write out a declaration detailing the harassment they were facing. When I finished the forms, I would go over them one by one with the clinic participants, explaining why I did (or did not) mark certain things and what they would need to do next to have their forms reviewed by a judge. Later in the day, I would assist individuals with unlawful detainer answers if they were facing eviction, which would be a lengthier process and include a phone interview, and occasionally would help an individual with a name and/or gender marker change.

4. Is there an experience at LASSD that has been particularly memorable for you?

Having never been to the courthouse before, I did not think much about how I packed my lunch on my first day. Because my meal was in a glass container, I could not bring it through security. I was told I would have to

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throw it away, or I could check if the cafe attached to the courthouse would be willing to hold it for me. I was incredibly embarrassed, and while the cafe cashier did tease me a little about not knowing the rules, they were happy to hold onto my food and even gave me some extra napkins when I came down to eat. This memory is a great representation of my experience at LASSD because I had viewed the courthouse as an intimidating, overly-serious place prior to volunteering there, but all of the people I met were always incredibly friendly and down to earth, even from day one.

5. How can someone get involved in volunteering for LASSD?

There are plenty of opportunities for volunteering with LASSD and I know they are always looking for extra hands. While I did my volunteering at the Hall of Justice downtown, which is just a short trolley ride away from campus, there are locations across the county that assist with different legal needs. Going to <https://www.lassd.org> will give you some basics about the organization and will provide you with the volunteer application form. Some locations also offer virtual volunteering currently, so commuting may not have to be an issue if you have a tight schedule but would still like to get some legal experience.

6. What other opportunities are you currently involved in, and/or hope to be involved in, while a student at UCSD?

At UCSD I am currently a member of Pi Sigma Alpha, the political science honor society, as well as Students for Global Health, as I am double majoring in political science and global health. I have volunteered with the Women's Center on campus and was previously a student in the Research Apprenticeship Program in the Political Science department as well.

7. After you graduate from UCSD, what goals do you hope to accomplish?

I will be attending law school in the fall following my graduation from UCSD. My two areas of interest, which were heavily influenced by the courses I took and instructors I connected with at UCSD, are health law and asylum and refugee law. I hope to commit myself to a career of public service through the law and have a goal of always creating a positive personal relationship with those I represent as a reminder of why I took interest in the law in the first place: to help others' lives for the better.

Faculty News

Lawrence Broz to Serve as the New Department Chair



After serving as Department Chair for six years, Professor Thad Kousser is stepping down as the department's Department Chair; beginning in July, the department will be led by Professor Lawrence Broz!

Thad's leadership contributed to the Department of Political Science welcoming numerous and excellent faculty members, over 100 new graduate students, and hundreds, if not thousands, of new undergraduate students. Under his guidance, the department also created new majors and minors in our undergraduate program, as well as our first joint program at the undergraduate level: the Political Science - International Affairs B.A./Master of International Affairs program with the School of Global Policy and Strategy.

When COVID-19 became a reality across the globe and here at UC San Diego, Thad fully supported the efforts of Department faculty, staff, and students in ways that allowed people to have confidence and ownership over their (nearly overnight!) virtual classes and programs, while still acknowledging the seemingly never ending challenges that were to be faced in the coming years. Always quick to respond to any need, no matter if it concerned a student, staff member, or faculty member, Thad created opportunities for discussion, learning, and growth within the department. He did not hesitate to lean on others for their expertise and guidance, and trusted that people would be able to be leaders in their own ways.

Thank you for everything, Thad, and welcome, Lawrence, as our new Department Chair!

Claire Adida to Serve as the New Director of Graduate Studies

After an excellent four years of leadership, Professor Christina Schneider is stepping down as the department's Director of Graduate Studies. Carrying on her leadership and expertise will be Professor Claire Adida! In the words of Professor and Department Chair, Thad Kousser, *"As you all know, she [Claire] is an exceptional scholar who has been a leader in our department and in the discipline at the same time that she has excelled in the classroom and as a mentor to so many PhD students. It is wonderful to know that our PhD program will be in truly great hands."*

Thank you again for your guidance and thoughtfulness for our graduate students, Christina, and welcome, Claire, as our new Director of Graduate Studies!



Three Faculty Members Promoted to Full Professor

Not one, not two, but **three** faculty members in the department have recently been promoted to Full Professor: Karen Ferree, Fonna Forman, and Claire Adida!

Some celebratory comments from Professor and Department Chair Thad Kousser include:

For Professor Karen Ferree (bottom, left): *“Her scholarship, which combines the creation of new datasets, massive original surveys, and close attention to causal inference, has established her as a leading scholar of African politics and an important contributor to comparative political economy more broadly. Reviewers praised her foundational work on ethnic voting that has influenced a generation of Africanist scholars and is routinely cited in work on regions around the world. Congratulations, Karen!”*

For Professor Fonna Forman (bottom, middle): *“We are so thrilled to have a colleague whose work spans from climate justice to grounded normative theory to Adam Smith to cities and borders. External reviewers praised her research as on the cutting edge of methodological discussions in the field of political theory and described her as one of the most innovative and productive political theorists working in the field today. Congratulations, Fonna!”*

For Professor Claire Adida (bottom, right): *“Her exceptional scholarship investigates the politics of diversity from the perspective of minoritized groups themselves – by asking how they use their cultural repertoires to assimilate, resist assimilation, form political preferences, and take political action – as well as from the perspective of the dominant majorities – by investigating what shapes their openness to new and existing forms of diversity. External reviewers termed her work, which uses field experiments, survey experiments, lab experiments, focus groups, and interviews, as cutting-edge methodologically, theoretically, and empirically, calling her without any doubt one of the leading scholars in the fields of migration, discrimination and ethnic exclusion. Congratulations, Claire!”*

Congratulations to Karen, Fonna, and Claire on their achievements and the beginnings of this next step of their career!



Powerful Op-Ed from LaGina Gause in the Union Tribune

In an op-ed titled, “Protesters Shouldn’t Have to Pay a High Price for Lawmakers to Care”, Assistant Professor LaGina Gause addresses why “costly protests” - which involve protestors suffering physical harm, monetary losses or other losses – are more effective in gaining legislative support.

Professor and Department Chair, Thad Kousser, shares, *“Very excited to see this opinion piece in the Union Tribune from LaGina Gause connecting the impact of the Bloody Sunday protest in Selma 57 years ago this week to the struggle to preserve voting rights today, and analyzing both through the lens of her new book, [The Advantage of Disadvantage: Costly Protest and Political Representation for Marginalized Groups](#). Rigorous, timely stuff!”*



Mayor Gloria Honors Fonna Forman as an Influential 'Women of Distinction' in San Diego



Fonna Forman was recognized for her impressive accomplishments and her passion for her work on climate justice, equitable urban development and border ethics. As one of ten women chosen, this is a wonderful honor. In the words of Mayor Gloria, “These highly accomplished leaders helped move our city forward and make it better for all of us.” The honor was covered by the [San Diego Union-Tribune](#). In addition to being a professor in our department, Fonna is the founding director of UC San Diego’s Center on Global Justice.

She also is an integral leader within the UC San Diego Community Stations Network. The Community Stations are a network of field stations located in diverse low-income neighborhoods on both sides of the border. Each is a partnership with a different community organization and each is co-developed, both physically and programmatically in collaboration with its partners. Each station is focused on the particular set of challenges facing those communities. Moving north to south:

- The UCSD-EarthLab Community Station: Located in the southeast San Diego neighborhood of Encanto, is a partnership with the environmental justice non-profit Groundwork San Diego. The site operates as an outdoor “climate action park”, focused on educational disparity, informal K-12 environmental education, and participatory climate action
- The UCSD-Casa Community Station: Located in the border neighborhood of San Ysidro, in partnership with the social service non-profit Casa Familiar, is focused on arts and culture, migration and citizenship, social housing, and public space. This station lives inside of a social housing development

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that celebrated its opening in Fall 2021, just before the COVID-19 pandemic forced the initiative to pivot to remote programming.

- The UCSD-Divina Community Station: Located in the informal settlement of Los Laureles Canyon on the periphery of Tijuana, Mexico, in partnership with the civil association Colonos de la Divina Providencia, addresses health disparities, binational water and waste management, environmental conservancy and remediation, and adaptation to the accelerating impacts of climate change.
- The UCSD-Alacrán Community Station: The newest community station is located in a refugee camp in an area of Tijuana known as Little Haiti. A partnership with the faith-based organization Embajadores de Jesús, it is focused on migration and asylum, health disparities, rethinking the migrant shelter as a space of inclusion, and social and economic development.

ACLU to Honor Tom Wong for Outstanding Contributions to Civil Rights

Associate Professor Tom Wong, was presented with the [ACLU's Presidential Prize](#), a major award given biennially to a full-time academic in any discipline for outstanding contributions to civil liberties, either during the period preceding the award or, preferably, for a lifetime contribution.

The linked page shares, “Dr. Wong’s research has been used in several federal lawsuits to defend DACA, end family separation at the southern border, and to prohibit indefinite child detention. He has served in many prestigious roles advising policymakers, including as co-director of the Human Rights and Migration program and as an advisor to the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (WHIAAPI) under the Obama administration, where he co-led the immigration portfolio.” Professor and Department Chair Thad Kousser notes, “*We are so proud and grateful to have you as part of our institution and our department, Tom.*”, and ACLU President Deborah Archer shares, “*Dr. Wong has had an enormous impact, benefiting policymakers and organizations fighting for immigrant communities.*” Congratulations, Tom!



Gareth Nellis to Serve as Placement Director



Assistant Professor Gareth Nellis will be serving as the department’s new Placement Director, a role which helps support graduate students on the academic and non-academic job market, beginning in Spring quarter.

He shares, “*I’m honored and excited to take on this new role, and look forward to working energetically to help all our fantastic students on the market. It will be wonderful to get a fuller sense of the range of the research and teaching you’ve been doing.*”

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I want to express huge appreciation, as well as admiration, for the job Christina Schneider has been doing as de facto placement director -- this, alongside her many other responsibilities as Director of Graduate Studies. Christina has made major, innovative strides in ensuring that students seeking non-academic careers have the best information possible. We've had a string of excellent placements recently, even during these challenging times. I've heard from multiple students how well supported they've felt. Very warm thanks for your tireless work, Christina. I know I have big shoes to fill."

Christina Schneider Awarded the Best Book on European Studies

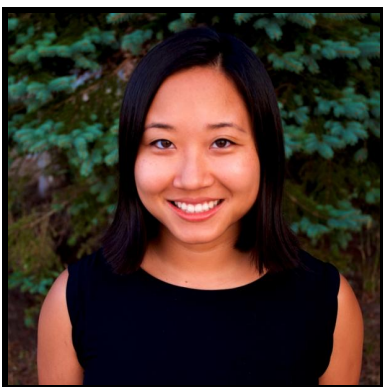
Professor Christina Schneider has recently earned the award of [Best Book on European Studies](#), for her book titled, "*The Responsive Union: National Elections and European Governance*", according to the [European Studies Association](#).

In the words of the selection committee, "Schneider skillfully navigates a variety of theoretical suppositions and empirical tests—ranging from carefully-designed conjoint survey experiments to time series analysis of EU budget distribution—to illustrate how European governments use public commitments in negotiations within the intergovernmental Council of the European Union to signal responsiveness to their electorates. The book's key insight—that response signaling coincides with national elections—highlights the influential, and often hidden, bargaining environment in international organizations like the EU. Through this engagement, Schneider argues, citizens come to support EU works and how governments use strategic signals of responsiveness to cope with mass demands."



Always the one to celebrate others' achievements, especially our graduate students, it's now your turn to be celebrated - Congratulations, Christina!

Pamela Ban Earns the APSA Legislative Studies Section's 2022 CQ Press Award



A paper written by Assistant Professor, Pamela Ban, titled, "How Are Politicians Informed? Witnesses and Information Provision in Congress," has been awarded the [APSA Legislative Studies Section's 2022 CQ Press Award](#) for the best paper on legislative studies presented at the previous year's APSA Annual Meeting.

It will also be included in the [American Political Science Review](#).
Congratulations, Pamela!

Contracts and Grants News

Recently Awarded Grants

LaGina Gause, Assistant Professor

Title: Protest in Congress
Awarded by: Divisional Research Grant

Title: Protest in Congress
Awarded by: Academic Senate

Pamela Ban, Assistant Professor

Title: Diversity and Representation in Information Provision to Congress
Awarded by: American University

Title: Diversity and Representation in Information Provision to Congress
Awarded by: Divisional Research Grant

Keng-Chi Chang, PhD Candidate

Title: The Effects of Visual Media Frames in Social Media Memes on Group Misperceptions
Awarded by: Rapoport Family Foundation

D.G. Kim, PhD Candidate

Title: Anti-Asian Racism, Elite Rhetoric, and American Public Opinion on China
Awarded by: Rapoport Family Foundation

Alexandra Lange, PhD Candidate

Title: American National Identity and Foreign Policy
Awarded by: Rapoport Family Foundation

Syeda ShahBano Ijaz, PhD Candidate

Title: From Aid to Accountability: The Politics of Last-Mile Access in Pakistan
Awarded by: The Mamdouha S. Bobst Center for Peace and Justice at Princeton University

Title: Graduate Research Award
Awarded by: The Yankelovich Center

Nicholas Smith, PhD Candidate

Title: Friend or Foe: The Political Construction of International Threats
Awarded by: The Charles Koch Foundation

Congratulations to our Researchers!

Other Grant News

Please make sure you check out the information for faculty page [here](#). This page contains information for faculty on new proposal submission deadlines, answering the PI questionnaire and certification in Kuali Research, and searching and viewing a proposal in Kuali Research.

Please keep these deadlines in mind:

- PIs shall notify research administrators of their intent to submit proposals no later than **14 business days** prior to the sponsor deadline and complete the research questionnaire and certification provided by a KR notification link.
- KR proposal records shall be routed to the assigned Sponsored Project Office **5 business days** prior to the sponsor's published deadline.
- The final draft of the research plan is due to OCGA **2 business days** prior to the sponsor's published deadline.

For those planning on submitting grants through the Department, please contact Vanessa Medina Quinto at vquinto@ucsd.edu for assistance.

Staff Corner

A New Adventure Awaits for Departing Staff Members Julie Choi and Kimberly Linsley

The Department of Political Science's Graduate Program Coordinator, Julie Choi, and Administrative Officer, Kimberly Linsley, have both moved on to new and exciting career opportunities at the end of the Winter 2022 quarter.

Julie Choi (top row, middle) has been a shining member of our department since we welcomed her in Summer 2018, and while we are sad to see her go, we are even more thrilled for her bright future ahead. A double alumni (undergraduate and graduate) of UC San Diego, Julie has spent over a decade as both a student and staff member on campus. As a Graduate Program Coordinator, Julie juggled her role seamlessly while also being a friendly face for our graduate students, faculty, and staff alike. From navigating the annual Graduate Open House, comprehensive exams, graduate student



funding, de-escalating conflicts and concerns, helping our graduate students through the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, and so much more, we will certainly miss Julie's expertise, humor, and dedication.

Department Chair Thad Kousser, shares, *"While we are so excited for you in taking this next step in career, I wanted to let you know, both personally and on behalf of our departmental community, how much your expert, caring, and endlessly dedicated presence will be missed in our PhD program. You have been such a huge part of what makes our graduate program so special for these past three years and such an integral part of our staff team; our grads, our department, and especially all of your friends on our staff and I will miss you tremendously. Thanks so much for all that you have done, and the best of wishes in this new adventure."*

Professor and Director of Graduate Studies, Christina Schneider, shares, *"I am so happy for you and I wish you all the very best for the next stage in your career. Your new employer will be so lucky to have you. Your contributions to our department have been immeasurable, especially throughout the pandemic. I am not sure how the graduate program would have been able to manage this crisis without your knowledge, your consistent willingness to go above and beyond, your expert ability to navigate the university policies, your ability to put a positive spin on almost anything that was thrown at us, and your absolute dedication to our students. Much of your work has been hidden, but I know that many of us, including myself, have benefited tremendously from it. Thank you for all that you have done. It's been such an honor and pleasure to work with you, I will miss you terribly."*

Kimberly Linsley has overseen all administrative and leadership aspects of the Department's staff members since she entered the role of Chief Administrative Officer in 2016. Similarly, our feelings are bittersweet about her departure; we have enjoyed her presence in the Department, but are thrilled that she is taking on the next step in her career by taking on a new opportunity at UCLA!

Department Chair Thad Kousser, shares, *"This is an exciting opportunity for Kimberly, and we wish her the best, but our entire departmental community will miss the vision, the problem-solving orientation, the fiscal savvy, and the consistent commitment to integrity and principled leadership that she brought to this position. She led our staff especially well during the pandemic, providing both a high level of service to students and faculty and working hard to ensure that staff morale remained strong during a historically challenging time. Though we'll miss Kimberly greatly, she is leaving the department in a very strong position with an excellent staff team, many of whom she hired and mentored, ready to carry our work forward."*

Joanna Peralta Promoted to Graduate Program Coordinator



Previously the department's Student Services Coordinator, Joanna Peralta will now serve as our new Graduate Program Coordinator! A UC San Diego alumna, Joanna started in the department in August 2019 and learned to juggle a myriad of responsibilities that included both undergraduate triage advising and overseeing the Graduate Speaker Series.

Congratulations, Joanna, and we look forward to your success as our Graduate Program Coordinator!

Ariane Parkes Promoted to Chief Administrative Officer

Previously serving as the department's Student Affairs Manager, and before that as the Undergraduate Student Affairs Advisor, Ariane Parkes will now serve as our new Chief Administrative Officer!

Ariane has been with the department for nearly 20 years, and was most recently selected as one of 15 staff members across campus to be awarded the 2020-21 UCSD Exemplary Staff Employee of the Year award. She consistently goes above and beyond what is expected in order to ensure the well-being and success of the department's undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty, and staff. Ariane's proactive leadership, positive attitude, humor, and unwavering support are the foundation to her future success as the department's Chief Administrative Officer!

