



(Photo Credit: Natalie Ikker)

Message from the Chair

This fall has been a time of adaptation, progress, and resilience as students, faculty and staff have returned to campus and as we look toward an even more vibrant community in the coming months. A strong majority of our classes this quarter have been offered in person, with students learning safely in indoor classrooms and in tents; in the winter, nearly all of our courses will be in person. We ramped up the number of virtual events, including those hosted by the Law and Politics Initiative, and this month, we began hosting events on campus and will expand them as university protocols allow. More and more of our students are taking part in research projects with faculty and with our doctoral candidates, with mentoring occurring through both virtual and in-person meetings. Our staff are working both in the department office and through remote availability, leveraging some of the hybrid tools that they created to serve our students and faculty so well over the past year and a half.

Through all of this, I've been continually impressed at how our students, staff, and scholars have adapted to the many obstacles that this pandemic has posed, crafting a new normal that fits our longstanding values of delivering a world-class education in political science to our diverse student body.

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



Undergraduate News

First Year and Transfer Orientations

A warm welcome for our Department's newest admits - over 400 of you! The Department of Political Science hosted one virtual orientation for our incoming transfer students in August and one virtual orientation session for our incoming first year students in September. Both groups learned all about what the Department has to offer for our students, including information about campus partners and programs, co-curricular involvement opportunities, and our academic majors. For those of you who missed out on these orientations, you can find the [PDFs of the presentations](#) on our "New and Prospective Students" page on the Department's website.

Students who RSVPed were asked to share how they plan to be successful as a Political Science student at UCSD.

Here are a handful of those responses:

"Study, balance social life and academics, have fun, focus on mental health and stability, have a good routine for myself and surround myself with positive influences and people that inspire me and I aspire to be more like."

"I plan to make connections with my professors and TAs so I do not feel afraid to ask questions or look for additional help when I am struggling."

"Managing my time, balancing multiple commitments, and not overwhelming myself."

"Getting involved in pertinent student organizations and reaching out to my professor regarding research and internship opportunities."

"I plan to use campus resources and reach out when I need help."

"Taking classes seriously and properly pacing my studying should help me be academically successful. I hope to take advantage of many of the opportunities that are available to me at UCSD, whether that be events, jobs, internships, or anything else."

Fall 2021 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!

Library Resources + Q&A with Political Science Librarian

[Annelise Sklar](#), Librarian for Political Science, Law & Society, and International Documents, is one of the best points of contact for when undergraduate and graduate students need help with navigating all the resources - general and Political Science-specific - available at [Geisel Library](#)! She covered a basic, high level overview of these resources and spent most of the time answering questions. If you ever have questions about how you can take your research paper in your Political Science courses to the next level, please reach out to her for assistance!



First Steps Info Session & Studying Abroad As A Political Science Major



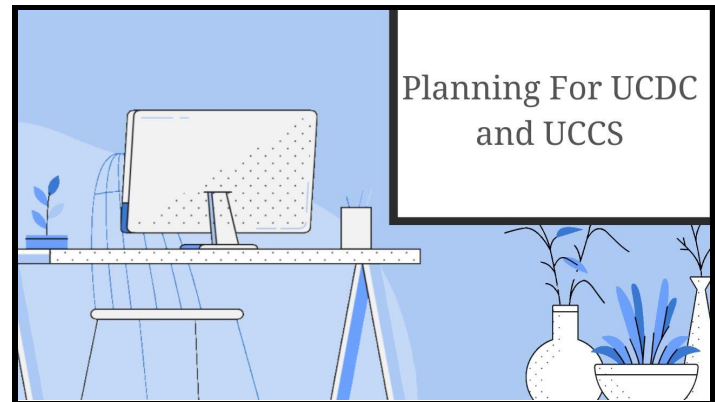
Political Science students interested in [different studying abroad programs](#) heard from Study Abroad Advisor, [Andra Jacques](#), on how to get started with study abroad, specific programs for Political Science majors, and lots of financial aid opportunities to fund their travels. The Undergraduate Advisor for Political Science, Natalie Ikker, informed students on how many courses can be used from study abroad to fulfill major requirements, petitioning courses from abroad, and the general timeline students should keep in mind when

considering study abroad.

Currently, the [Study Abroad Office](#) can be reached by email and the Virtual Advising Center, with plenty of videos and resources for students on their main page. You can also review the Department of Political Science's [web page for studying abroad](#).

Planning for UCDC and UCCS as a Political Science Major

Earlier in the Fall quarter, students listened to McKenzie Richardson, a Winter 2019 UCDC Alumni, Department of Political Science Alumni, and current graduate student at the School of Global Policy and Strategy, and Anna Pelz, UC Center Sacramento Peer Advisor and current fourth year Political Science - Data Analytics major about how to plan ahead for the UCDC and UC Center Sacramento programs.



For those interested in the program for Summer 2022 and beyond, please [contact Jennifer Homrich](#) to set up a meeting, or review the [website](#) for updates and application materials. You can find the workshop recording on our Department's [Youtube page](#).

Capital Fellows Program

A great program that students are encouraged to participate in after graduating from UCSD is the [Capital Fellows Program](#). Dang Do, a graduate student within the Department of Political Science, participated in the prestigious Capital Fellows Program prior to beginning his graduate studies. Intertwining humor and professional insight, Dang Do shared his application tips, personal experiences in the program, and benefits of participating in the program with interested students during the presentation.

For those who are interested in the program, including those who were unable to attend the workshop, we recommend you review the Capital Fellows Program page and reach out to [Dang](#) for his insight. From the website, the Capital Fellows Programs, *"...are nationally recognized public policy fellowships which offer unique experiences in policy-making and development in each branch of government. Capital Fellows are placed at some of the highest levels of California state government and assist state legislators, senior-level executive staff, and court administrators with a broad range of public policy issues and projects and are typically given assignments with a significant amount of responsibility and challenges."*

Applications for the 2022-23 Capital Fellows Programs are due Monday, February 7, 2022 (11:59 pm PST)

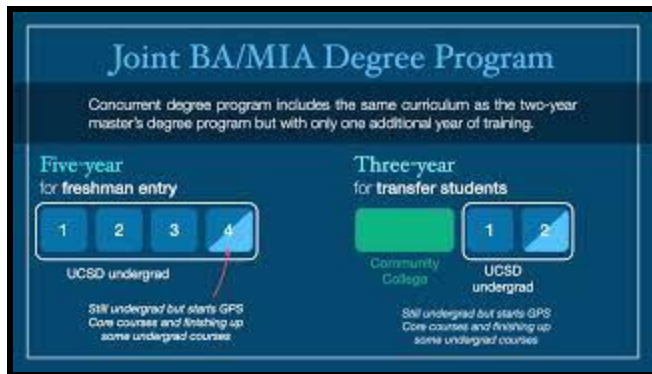
Career Exploration Game Plan for Political Science Students

[Kelly Jensen](#), Associate Director for Social Sciences at the [Career Services Center](#), is one of the best points of contact for when you need help with navigating all things career related while at UC San Diego!

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In this workshop, she covered tips, timelines, and resources to utilize as a Political Science major that can benefit you in all aspects of your career exploration journey. These types of workshops are relevant for Political Science majors of any academic level, and may be particularly helpful for students who are not as familiar with accessing virtual and in-person support services that the Career Services Center offers.

Political Science - International Affairs BA/Master of International Affairs Joint Degree Program Information Session



The Department of Political Science and [School of Global Policy & Strategy \(GPS\)](#) welcomed a brand new joint degree program for students interested in the field of international affairs in late 2020, and its first cohort this Fall! We held a virtual information session, hosted by Dr. Nancy Gilson who serves as the Director of Degree Programs at GPS, to discuss the [Bachelor of Arts in Political Science - International Affairs and Master of International Affairs \(BA/MIA\) Joint Degree Program](#).

This program allows students to begin graduate coursework as a senior and earn a master's degree with only one additional year of coursework. The requirements for the BA/MIA in the senior year and one year of graduate work are identical to those for the two-year MIA.

Krinsk-Houston Law & Politics Initiative Events

Law School - Your Questions Answered & Your Personal Statement (and Other Essential Documents)

Just before the start of Fall quarter, Professor Maysa Nichter - Director of the Law and Politics Initiative - invited Hamada Zahawi, founder of Write Track Admissions, to share the wisdom and insight he and his team have gathered over the past 14 years of assisting hundreds of students gain admissions to some of the nation's top law schools.

Later in the quarter, Hamada Zahawi spoke to students on the importance of one's personal statement when applying to law school, sharing that "it has the potential to both convince the Admissions Committee to admit you into a program, as well as to cause the Admissions Committee to ultimately pass on your application though you may have met the GPA/LSAT scores desired". He offered students a variety of tips and spoke about the detailed process his company has used to help hundreds of prospective law and graduate students prepare their strongest personal statement as they apply to law and graduate schools across the country.

Tips from the Experts - A Conversation with Law School Admissions Counselors



Mid-quarter, Professor Maysa Nichter facilitated a panel discussion with law school admissions counselors from UCLA, University of Seattle, Cal Western School of Law, and UC Berkeley.

The admissions counselors answered many important questions submitted by students about the ins and outs of the process, as well as questions pertaining to law school applications. Students had a greater understanding of what to expect when pursuing the

application process and how they can highlight their accomplishments in a personal way that still delivers a strong application!

Graduate News

TA Excellence Awards

Each year the Department of Political Science selects TA Excellence Award recipients based on TA evaluation scores assigned from undergraduate students. Graduate students who have taught undergraduate lower-division sections at least once during the academic year are eligible.

This year's recipients are:

Rachel Schoner (left; 7th year)
Anthony Anderson (middle; 3rd year)
Rachel Skillman (right; 5th year)



2021 – 2022 Graduate Student Council

The [Graduate Student Council](#) is a student initiative designed to foster a supportive community amongst graduate students and to give them a voice in the department. The Political Science Department believes that both the faculty and students benefit from graduate student input into relevant decisions, and that sustaining a healthy environment for graduate students is essential for their success. The Council is composed of approximately 10 students in various stages of the program.

This Council serves to communicate a student perspective to the department faculty and administration, coordinate the organization of department activities, and represent the department in the campus-wide Graduate Student Association. The hope is that the role of the Council will become institutionalized and

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develop into an essential part of the department as students and faculty find ways to improve the graduate experience.

2021-2022 Graduate Student Council Members

President: Marco Alcocer

VP Faculty Liaison: Alison Boehmer

VP Social Programming: Austin Beacham / Rachel Skillman

VP Volunteering: Yeilim Cheong

VP Orientation: Catarina Roman / Eric Thai

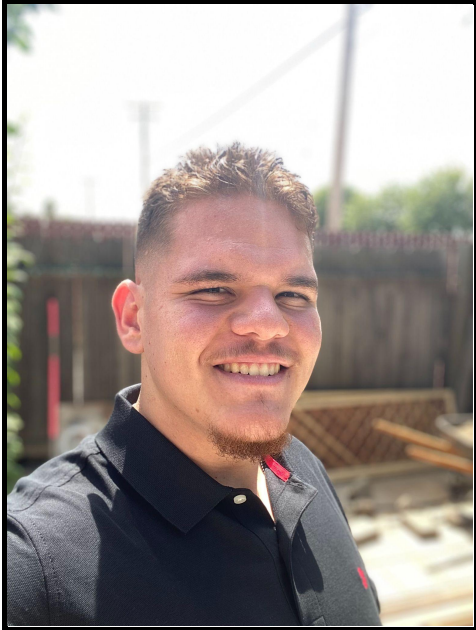
VP Recruitment: Jesus Rojas Venzor / Wendy Wagner / Bertrand Wilden

Treasurer: Leo Falabella

GSA Representatives: Giulia Corno / Anthony Anderson

Undergraduate Student Accomplishments

The UC San Diego Guardian Experience



Jose Chavez, a second year student majoring in Political Science - Data Analytics and minoring in History serves as a Senior Staff Writer for the [News Section](#) at [The Guardian](#). Read about Jose's experience below!

What made you decide to be a writer for the UCSD Guardian? What are some of your main responsibilities?

I decided to join the UCSD Guardian to improve my writing capabilities and expand upon my knowledge of current affairs. One of the most important skills you need as a social science major is concise writing. Sure, speaking with an exorbitant amount of verbosity may or may not aid in the exemplary execution of your term papers; however, there aren't many people in the world who have the patience to sift through content like that. I kept this in mind while looking for my first extracurricular activity and was satisfied with the UCSD Guardian.

Some of my main responsibilities as a Senior Staff Writer for the News Section are to publish four articles a quarter, be on-call for at least one week to get the scoop on campus affairs, and to identify different national/international topics that directly relate to UC San Diego in one way or another.

2. For those interested in becoming a writer - or other staff member - for the UCSD Guardian, what is the process like?

Those interested in joining the UCSD Guardian can [apply on the website](#) through a Google Form. There are a myriad of sections one can apply to, ranging from News to Arts & Entertainment to Data Visualization. After one fills out the form, the section editor for the respective section will email the applicant with potential times for an interview. Once signed onto the team, individuals have the opportunity to climb up the ranks through their work. In the News Section, everyone starts off as a contributing writer.

After writing four articles in one quarter, they are automatically staff writers for the section. After two quarters of writing four articles a quarter, they will have earned the position of senior staff writer. At this point, individuals are able to apply for stipended positions like an editorial assistant or section editor. The UCSD Guardian is currently seeking an editor for the Data Visualization Section, so if any Political Science - Data Analytics (B.S.) majors are looking for some practical media experience, I highly encourage them to apply!

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3. What type of articles do you write about? Are there any you are most proud of?

As mentioned above, I am a Senior Staff Writer for the News Section at The Guardian. I specialize primarily in domestic affairs that relate to UC San Diego. At this point, I have written about twenty articles and have a particular affinity for two that were released earlier this quarter. Firstly, I wrote an article about [a fourth-year student whose family recently took refuge from Afghanistan](#). She told me her life story and disclosed the terror her family endured during the recent resurgence of the Taliban. Thankfully, all of her family made it out safely and she is able to graduate with peace of mind this year.

The second article that I wrote was [on law school admissions and what an array of UCSD affiliates thought](#) about the process. I interviewed several law school applicants, current legal students, and even law school professors affiliated with UCSD to get their take on the admissions process, resulting in a comprehensive article on how students applying this cycle can succeed. I should note that writers are not limited to any particular section when working for The Guardian -- you can work with the various editors to write a piece on whatever piques your interest!

4. How has being part of the UCSD Guardian impacted your time at UCSD so far?

Networking is of particular importance to political science students due to the emphasis put on wedging ourselves into the inner workings of society. In Greek, “politiká” roughly translates to “affairs of the cities”, meaning that to be a successful political scientist one must be knowledgeable on various affairs. Being a part of the UCSD Guardian has been a tremendous help to my networking ability at UC San Diego and worldwide. I have developed professional connections with many professors who work in the political science department on-campus to biological labs at the University of Copenhagen in Denmark. I have also reached out to various UCSD alumni for articles. Now whenever I run into said individuals, I can lead the interaction with the fact that we have already met during a news interview a while back. I have also vastly improved my writing skills with the guidance of my editors and the copy team here at The Guardian, which has contributed to my success in upper-division writing and the Making of The Modern World writing sequence at Eleanor Roosevelt College.

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

In addition to the UCSD Guardian, I also participate in many other organizations on and off campus. I am one of the coaches on the UCSD Speech and Debate team. I specialize in Extemporaneous Speaking, which is essentially writing a short speech on domestic or international affairs. I have won awards in high school and intercollegiate levels in Original Oratory, Congressional Debate, and Extemporaneous Speaking. I also work for the university as a Peer Mentor for the Office of Academic Support and Instructional Services (OASIS) and an Orientation Leader for Eleanor Roosevelt College.

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Lastly, I was invited to participate in the [American Enterprise Institute](#)'s 2021 Conference on Hispanic Politics at Florida International University in Miami, Florida. During the conference, I got invited to participate in a paid fellowship with Politico after graduation, learned extensively about socio-economic issues pertaining to Latin-Americans, and personally networked with researchers from Harvard University, PEW Research Center, and the American Enterprise Institute itself. If anybody is interested in participating in the student programs offered by AEI, be sure to flag me down on campus!

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

After graduating from UCSD, I intend on taking a gap year before applying to law school and pursuing a judicial clerkship on the federal level. POLI 104A and POLI 104B greatly inspired me to look into case law and become more conscious of the weight of judicial precedent. Honing my writing skills with The Guardian and by being active within the Political Science Department here at UC San Diego has undoubtedly made obtaining my goals much more realistic!

The UCAN Ambassador Program Experience

Genavieve Koenigshofer, a second year student double majoring in Political Science - Public Policy and Cognitive & Behavioral Neuroscience serves as a [UC Advocacy Network \(UCAN\)](#) Ambassador. The UC Advocacy Network is, “...the grassroots advocacy community led by the UC Office of the President. Advocates lend their voices on key university budget and legislative priorities that are determined by the Board of Regents and UC leadership.” Read about Genavieve’s experience below!



1. How did you first hear about the UCAN Student Ambassador Program? What about the program encouraged you to apply?

Like many people, I first heard about the UCAN Student Ambassador Program when I saw an ad on Instagram. But as soon as I discovered it, I knew this program would be a great fit for me. Since high school, I've been involved in K-12 education advocacy, so I decided to apply because I hoped the UCAN program would help me translate my interest in K-12 education policy to collegiate issues. And equally as important, I wanted the chance to help me connect with equally passionate individuals in this field despite our virtual setting!

2. What was the process of applying, interviewing, and being selected for the program like for you?

I applied for the program through the [application](#) on the UCAN website. I found the application very approachable: not intimidating at all! There was no interview process involved, even for being a Campus Leader. I found out about my position through the introductory email, and let me tell you, I was very surprised! But I quickly grew into the leadership role, so I'm very happy with their decision!

3. What does advocacy mean to you?

Advocacy is, in essence, the act of raising your voice. Whether it is done to support your own needs or on behalf of others, its purpose is to make people pay attention to your needs and, sometimes, demands. There is a common misconception that politics is not for the young, because we are used to being silenced instead. We are often dismissed as naive and persuaded to doubt our opinions and values. But, on the contrary, it is more important than ever for students to get involved early in the political arena, because if we do not fight for our own interests and needs, no one else will.

4. How does your participation in the UCAN Student Ambassador Program support your future goals?

Firstly, as a current (and possibly future!) advocate in the state legislative sphere, I have learned a ton about the legislative cycle, lobbying, and mobilizing. Secondly, by meeting legislative aides and other people who are in the field, it has also given me insight into what an entry-level career in legislation looks like, so I can make an informed decision about how I'd like to dedicate the rest of my life. Thirdly, I've gained leadership and collaboration experience among motivated college students, which will be helpful in any field. And lastly, I've had the opportunity to network - not only with other college students who will likely end up in this field, but also UC staff, legislative aides, and even sometimes representatives themselves - that will definitely come in handy if I decide to pursue a political career.

5. What are some other opportunities and/or programs you would like to partake in throughout your time at UC San Diego? What makes you excited to pursue those opportunities and/or programs?

This year, I am applying for the [UCCS \(UC Center Sacramento\) program](#), which would allow me to spend a quarter in Sacramento, where I would take specialized political science classes, intern for someone in the legislative sphere, and conduct research in political science. This is an incredible opportunity to get close to the action and experience life in state politics! I am especially excited about the education policy class in the Spring quarter, which is when I am applying.

Shameless plug, but I am also the president of a student org called [GENup Collegiate at UCSD](#). In this, I teach skills I have learned from UCAN and other prior legislative experiences such as how the legislative cycle works, how to mobilize, and how to make your voice heard. We then apply these to local campaigns, meant to improve UCSD; or often to statewide and national campaigns about education policy. If this interests you, I highly encourage you to sign up for next year at tinyurl.com/genupucsd.

6. What advice would you give to students interested in the UCAN Student Ambassador Program and other advocacy-related opportunities?

If you're still on the fence about applying, take it from me: Apply. You won't regret it. The UCAN Student Ambassador program is truly an unparalleled opportunity for an introduction into the legislative sphere. Whether you're a political science major or pre-med student - or both, like me - everyone should know how to advocate for the causes you care about, and UCAN will give you the experiences and mentorship you need to learn.

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And when you do join us, remember that the more you put into the program, the more you will get out of it. Be engaged. Attend your campus meetings. Volunteer to take on an extra campaign. Everything you do in this program is not only a chance to learn, but also to support your team, your campus and the entire UC system!

7. What do you hope to do after graduating from UC San Diego?

I am torn between two very different fields: psychiatry, or education policy. As such, I am taking a major in each to give me experience in both fields. On the one hand, I may apply to medical school to get my MD. On the other hand, if I decide to pursue education policy, I am considering joining Teach For America for a year before running for my local school board. I may also explore opportunities such as internships, being a legislative aide, or working for an education nonprofit. I am only entering my second year at UCSD, so my future is still vague and undetermined, but UCAN has definitely solidified my interest in pursuing political advocacy as a career!

Graduate Student Accomplishments

ShahBano Ijaz Wins UC HSI DDI Writing Grant and Oceanids Memorial Fellowship



Nearly 50 excellent applications for the [University of California's Hispanic Serving Institutions Doctoral Diversity Initiative](#) (UC-HSI DDI), which provides professional development funds to support pre-professoriate preparation, were submitted, and ShahBano Ijaz (left), 5th year graduate student, was one of ten who were selected.

Writing grant recipients will be required to participate in a six-week Summer writing retreat, which includes weekly sessions filled with writing strategies and academic job market insights, as well as twice-weekly community meetings for dedicated writing time. The grant, worth \$3000, allows advanced doctoral graduate students to devote significant time during the Summer months to completing their

dissertations or other academic writing projects that prepare them for the professoriate.

ShahBano was also selected for the 2021-22 Oceanids Memorial Fellowship; congratulations on your many accomplishments, ShahBano!

Bianca Freeman and ShahBano Ijaz who have been awarded with the IGCC Dissertation Fellowship 2021-22

Many congratulations to Bianca Freeman (left; 4th year) and ShahBano Ijaz (right; 5th year) who have been awarded with the [IGCC Dissertation Fellowship](#) 2021-22. The fellowship is awarded to a small number of outstanding PhD Students from across the University of California system.

[IGCC](#) seeks to "support dissertations around research topics that closely track current global security priorities".



Mariana Carvalho Earns the Guggenheim Emerging Scholar Award



Mariana Carvalho (left; 7th year) has won an [Emerging Scholar Award](#) from the Board of Directors of [The Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation](#), which will support her research on “The Causes and Consequences of Political Assassinations.” Congratulations on this exceptional achievement that will support your research, Mariana!

Faculty News

Kirk Bansak Wins the Gosnell Prize for Excellence in Political Methodology

Assistant Professor Kirk Bansak (right), and co-authors Avidit Acharya (Stanford) and Jens Hainmueller (Stanford), have won the [Gosnell Prize for Excellence in Political Methodology](#) for their paper, "Combining Outcome-Based and Preference-Based Matching: A Constrained Priority Mechanism"; the honor is awarded for the best work in political methodology presented at any political science conference during the preceding year.

The selection committee writes: *"It is my pleasure to announce that the winners of the Society for Political Methodology's Gosnell Prize are Avidit Acharya (Stanford), Kirk Bansak (UCSD), and Jens Hainmueller (Stanford) for their paper, "Combining Outcome-Based and Preference-Based Matching: A Constrained Priority Mechanism." The Gosnell Prize for Excellence in Political Methodology is awarded for the best work in political methodology presented at any political science conference during the preceding year.*



There were a number of outstanding nominations for the 2020 cycle, though the award committee (Skyler Cranmer, Naoki Egami, Anand Sokhey) agreed that "Combining Outcome-Based and Preference-Based Matching: A Constrained Priority Mechanism" by Avidit Acharya, Kirk Bansak, and Jens Hainmueller was very deserving of this honor.

Acharya et al.'s paper opens up a new opportunity to connect political methodology, machine learning, and mechanism design -- the latter is a lively field in Economics, and has clear implications for designing real-world institutions. This paper tackles one of the most important problems in society and in political science --- refugee settlements and integration --- by designing a mechanism to allocate refugees while taking into account the preferences of both refugees and planners. Moreover, the paper is notable in that it provides three significant contributions: (1) it connects two large literatures that have been studied separately, (2) it provides a new methodological/theoretical contribution, and (3) it provides an important application (the authors are implementing it with the Dutch government)."

For those interested, their paper can be accessed and downloaded [here](#). Congratulations, Kirk!

Molly Roberts Wins the 2021 Society for Political Methodology Emerging Scholar Award



Associate Professor Molly Roberts (left) has won the [2021 Society for Political Methodology Emerging Scholar Award](#)!

The committee shares: “Roberts has made important contributions to the field of political methodology in scholarship, service, and mentorship. Roberts is an intellectual leader in the field of political methodology for her contributions to the methods of automated content analysis, topic models, and experimentation. Her work in this area has been published in *Political Analysis*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Political Science Review*, *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, *Nature*, and *Science*, among other outlets. Her co-authored book, *Text as Data: A New Framework for Machine Learning and the Social Sciences*, will be published this year by Princeton University Press. In addition, she has co-developed multiple R

packages, including the popular *stm* package for structural topic models. Much of her substantive research has focused on the politics of censorship in China, including an award-winning book, *Censored: Distraction and Diversion Inside China’s Great Firewall* (Princeton University Press, 2018)

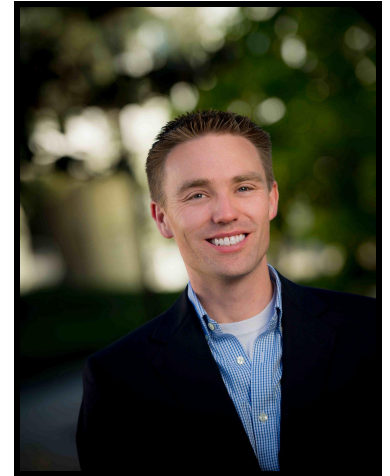
Roberts is an Associate Professor in the Department of Political Science and the Halicioğlu Data Science Institute at the University of California, San Diego, where she also holds the Chancellor’s Associates Endowed Chair. She received her PhD in government from Harvard University in 2014. Finally, Roberts is an active member of the Society—winner of the 2014 PolMeth Harold F. Gosnell Prize, a frequent participant in the summer meeting, and a member of *Political Analysis* editorial board.”

Professor and Department Chair Thad Kousser shares, “Congratulations Molly, whose emergence we are proud to have spotted way back in 2014 and whom we are so thrilled to have on our faculty!”

Seth Hill Promoted to Rank of Professor of Political Science

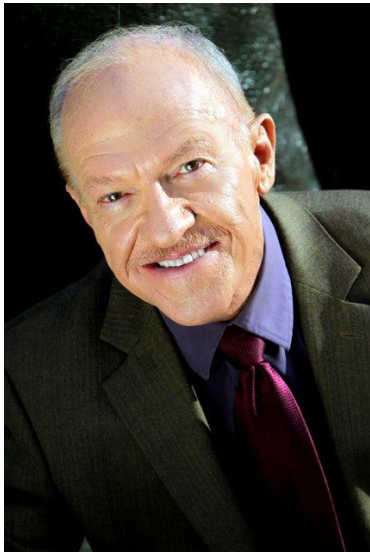
Professor Seth Hill (right), who came to UC San Diego in 2012 as an Assistant Professor and held the rank of Assistant Professor in 2017, has recently been promoted to the rank of Professor of Political Science within the department.

Professor and Department Chair Thad Kousser shares, *“This opportunity to review his influential and exceptionally rigorous body of work and to hear from leading figures in the field about how Seth is now, himself, a leading figure in the field served as a wonderful reminder of just how lucky we are to have him in our department.”*



Congratulations, Professor Seth Hill!

Wayne Cornelius Awarded the Reville Medal



Professor and Department Chair, Thad Kousser, shares *“I’m thrilled to let you know that Wayne Cornelius has been awarded [UC San Diego’s most prestigious honor, the Reville Medal](#). Below is a short summary of Wayne’s many contributions to campus!”*

Wayne A. Cornelius, Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Political Science

A world-renowned expert on immigration policy and Mexican studies, Wayne A. Cornelius (left) was the founding director of two internationally respected, interdisciplinary research centers: the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies and the Center for Comparative Immigration Studies, which helped to put UC San Diego on the global map in both fields. He authored, co-authored or edited over 300 publications and is a frequent contributor to national and international news media. He advised presidential candidates Pete Buttigieg and Joe Biden on immigration issues. Cornelius did field research with his students annually from

1976 through 2015 and served as founding director of UC San Diego’s nationally recognized Mexican Migration Field Research and Training Program. In 2012, Mexican President Felipe Calderón awarded him the Order of the Aztec Eagle, Mexico’s highest decoration for foreign citizens. He also received the Latin American Studies Association’s Kalman Silvert Award for Lifetime Achievement, and the University of California’s systemwide Constantine Panunzio Award for distinguished post-retirement service.

Tom Wong Earns the 2021 ACLU Presidential Prize

Associate Professor Tom Wong has been selected as the recipient of the 2021 ACLU Presidential Prize. The [ACLU](#) established its Presidential Prize in 2013, which is given biannually to a full-time academic in any discipline for outstanding contributions to civil liberties, either during the period preceding the award or for a lifetime contribution.

President of the ACLU, Professor Deborah N. Archer at NYU, shares, *"The 2021 ACLU Award Selection Committee chose you [Tom] for this honor because of your significant contribution to research on immigration, not only as a matter of advancing academic scholarship in this area, but also for the major impact your research has had in policymaking and litigation. You have made an enormous difference, and we are delighted to honor your work...it is no exaggeration to say that your scholarship has made outstanding contributions towards the better understanding of civil rights and civil liberties issues, enabling organizations like the ACLU to do advocacy work and effect change."*

Congratulations, Tom!



Contracts and Grants News

Recently Awarded Grants

Lawrence Broz, Professor

Title: International Trade Agreements and U.S. Domestic Politics

Awarded by: Academic Senate

Pamela Ban, Assistant Professor

Title: Information Sharing and the Use of Evidence in Congressional Policymaking

Awarded by: Hellman Fellowship

Tom Wong, Associate Professor

Title: US Immigration Policy Center

Awarded by: Unbound Philanthropy

Megumi Naoi, Associate Professor and Sichen Li, PhD Candidate

Title: How Political Conflicts Fuel Cross-border Investment

Awarded by: GPS 21st Century China Center

Marco Alcocer, PhD Candidate

Title: Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant

Awarded by: American Political Science Association

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 Quali Research, and searching and viewing a proposal in Quali 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 at vomedina@ucsd.edu for assistance.

Staff Corner

Ariane Parkes Honored as a 2020–21 UCSD Exemplary Staff Employee of the Year

Ariane Parkes, Student Affairs Manager for the Department, is one of 15 employees who were selected for the 2020-21 UCSD Exemplary Staff Employee of the Year [award](#)! Each eligible nomination made across the campus community was reviewed by a panel consisting of representatives from each vice chancellor area, UC San Diego Health, and the Chancellor's Office. You can view a recording of the awards [here](#). Director of Undergraduate Studies, Professor Maureen Feeley speaks upon Ariane's work ethic and accomplishments between 18:45 - 22:38.

In the words of Department Chair and Professor Thad Kousser, *"This is a huge university-wide honor of which she is extraordinarily deserving, as a staff leader of our academic program, mentor, and incredible colleague. For many of us, it's been a huge pleasure to work with Ariane for our entire careers at UCSD. Our Department's nomination cited many specific examples of her contributions, but summed them up below. Congratulations, Ariane!"*

For nearly twenty years, Ariane's contributions to our department have been consistently exceptional. She has worked tirelessly on behalf of the well-being and success of our undergraduate students, our graduate students, our faculty, and our staff. She has consistently performed above and beyond the scope of her responsibilities with



exceptional contributions, innovative and proactive leadership, extraordinary service, inclusive excellence, and supportive relationship building. No matter what her workload, she

consistently looks for additional creative and innovative ways to support each of us, including late into the evenings and on weekends. Moreover, she accomplishes all of this with an infectious sense of humor, comradery, and efficiency that never ceases to amaze and inspire us. Based on our collective years at UCSD (which number many!), we believe her commitment and contributions to our department and our campus are truly remarkable at every level, and we sincerely hope her extraordinary efforts are recognized by this prestigious campus award.



Alisa Hul, Student Assistant for the Department of Political Science, Graduates!

Our department's wonderful student worker, Alisa Hul, graduated in June with a major in Global Health and minors in both Environmental Studies and Healthy Aging. She has been working for the department for the past 2.5 years and has been a wonderful help for all members of the department throughout her time with us, both in-person and all throughout our time working virtually!

Alisa shares, *"For most people, going to work is a dreadful feeling, however, that was not the case for me. For the past few years working at the Political Science Department, I never felt that dreaded feeling as a Student Administrative Assistant, even through this pandemic. The people and environment of the Department has always been welcoming, nurturing, and passionate. Now that I have graduated, it is a bittersweet moment to move onto my next great thing, as a mentor for children with autism and children living in low-income areas. I want to give a big thank you to the staff for giving me the opportunity to work in the Department, and allowing me to develop my knowledge, skills, and abilities. Thank you."*



Here are some words of thanks, praise, and appreciation from our Department:

"I just wanted to express my gratitude to Alisa for her steadfast professionalism, helpfulness, and efficiency. I did not get a chance to get to know her well unfortunately but I have no doubt she will excel at her next endeavors. Best of luck!"

"It's been such a pleasure working with you these past couple of years. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors. Please keep in touch, as you will be missed. I see a bright future ahead for you!"

"Congratulations on your graduation! We cannot thank you enough for everything that you have done for the Department. We truly appreciate you and will miss you! Wishing you all the success in your future endeavors!"

"Congratulations on graduating, Alisa! Thank you for all your hard work at the department in the last couple of years. We'll miss you so much! Best of luck in your future endeavors and stay in touch."

"Thank you very much Alisa for all your excellent help throughout your time with us in Poli Sci. We really appreciate everything that you did for us, especially during this last crazy year we had. You adapted exceptionally well. Best wishes to you in your new endeavors."

Welcome Kirstie Onuchic, our Department HR Coordinator!



We welcomed a new HR Coordinator - Kirstie Onuchic - into our Department just around the start of Spring 2020, and she was fully onboarded in November 2020. After being with us for more than a year and meeting so many Department members in person this quarter, here is a bit more about Kirstie!

What is your role in the Department, and what brought you to the career path?

I am currently the Human Resources Coordinator for the Political Science Department. To be honest, no one says they want to work in HR when they grow up (I think I wanted to be a singer?). But, HR kind of randomly found me :). I've always enjoyed working in higher education, and found that Human Resources is a good job with plenty of people to people interaction.

What are some of your main responsibilities?

Mainly, I handle all aspects of staff and casual/restricted student appointments. I also handle all aspects of Facilities Management for the department. Usually people come to me regarding staff/student hiring and/or jobs, dispute resolution, payroll/paycheck assistance, and lost keys.

Outside of work, how do you spend your time?

Mainly I enjoy spending time with my family. I'm a huge foodie, so I enjoy eating lots and lots of good food! I also like experimenting with cooking and learning new recipes. I also love to sing and listen to good music- you'll probably hear me occasionally singing in my office!

Where would you like to travel when it is most safe to do so post-COVID?

Ultimately, I would love to go back to Brazil (we have family members who we haven't seen in over 5 years). If not, I would love to re-visit Japan!

Anything else you'd like to share?

I'm ultimately here as a resource, and hope to meet everyone soon! I'm always available and would love to get to know the rest of the Political Science Department! Thanks for featuring me!