Undergraduate News

New Major Alert!

The Department of Political Science welcomes a new major for students in the Fall 2018 quarter: Political Science-Data Analytics (B.S.). The major is the first Bachelor of Science major for the Department, and the only Political Science major with a Bachelor of Science notation in the University of California system. The curriculum of the Bachelor of Science in Political Science-Data Analytics major rivals top political science programs with similar B.S. degrees across the nation. This first-of-its-kind program gives students the chance to explore their passion for politics and policy through the lens of a rigorous grounding in data science. Courses are taught by professors who are leading figures in political data analytics, and the smaller seminar courses provide a hands-on-the-keyboard workshop experience for students to develop their application of knowledge and skills to real-world problems.

The Department hosted a well-attended information session focused on the goals and future of the new major in October, and is actively adding new courses to the major’s curriculum. As of April 2019, there are 68 students in the new major. Interested in learning more about the new major? Students can contact the
Department’s Undergraduate Advisor, Natalie Ikker, via the Virtual Advising Center. Staff can contact Natalie via email at nbikker@ucsd.edu.

**Welcome Class of 2020 and 2022!**

Nearly 100 transfer and freshmen students attended the Department of Political Science orientation sessions in August and September 2018, where they learned about the eight different Political Science majors, the variety of courses in the department, how to navigate UC San Diego support services and resources, and co-curricular opportunities available to students in and out of the department, such as research positions, internship opportunities, study abroad, and student involvement. Student leaders from the Political Science Student Association (PSSA) also welcomed the new students and shared their plans for growing the organization. If you would like to learn more about PSSA, please visit their [page on the Department’s website](#) and follow their [Facebook page](#).

**Welcome Back Lunch**

The Department hosted a “Welcome Back” lunch in early October 2018 for students to share their feedback on events, workshops, and opportunities that can be hosted in the upcoming year. Students were also able to connect with their peers, incoming Political Science students, and Professor Maureen Feeley over food and refreshments in a relaxed environment.

**The Krinsk-Houston Law and Politics Initiative at Work**

The Initiative hosted two well-attended events in Fall: “Building a Successful Law School Application” on October 15th with over 100 attendees, and “Life as a Public Policy Professional” on November 5th with over 75 attendees. Directed by Dr. Matthew Bergman (pictured), the Initiative creates a premier pre-law experience for UCSD students through pre-law courses that brings law school faculty, practicing attorneys, and judges into the classroom, rich community engagement, financial scholarships for law-related opportunities, and local internships for talented students.

The two events welcomed professionals in the field, top admissions representatives from local law schools, recent UCSD Political Science alumni, and current law school students to share their stories and insights with
students by means of a Q&A panel and networking opportunities. Moving forward, the Initiative plans to continue with similar events to support students’ academic and professional growth.

To learn more about how you can be part of the Krinsk-Houston Law and Politics Initiative, contact Dr. Bergman at mbergma@ucsd.edu and check out the Department’s page for the Initiative. Students interested in attending these events should be on the lookout for announcement emails from the Department’s Undergraduate Advisor, Natalie Ikker, at nbikker@ucsd.edu. These events are also broadcasted on the Department’s Facebook page. Photo credit: Natalie Ikker

Krinsk-Houston Law and Politics Initiative: “Managing the Transition to Law School” Event

On January 30th, the Initiative invited students interested in law school to hear from a panel of current law students, law professors, and professionals in the legal field on the transition to law school, navigating law school effectively, and the professional experiences one can seek in the legal community during and after law school. The event’s keynote speaker, Judge Richard Monroy (pictured) from the County of San Diego, himself a UCSD alumni, shared his experiences as a student at UCSD and the challenges he faced while a law student at the University of Southern California Gould School of Law.

Judge Monroy encouraged attendees to seek opportunities that aligned with their professional and personal goals, network authentically with peers and professionals alike, and continue excelling in their academic pursuits. After the panel, the 70+ students, panelists, and invited guests were able to connect and learn from each other through casual networking. Photo credit: Natalie Ikker
Fall 2018 Undergraduate Professional Development Workshop Series

Multiple workshops and events aimed at the professional development of Political Science students were held in the Fall quarter, facilitated by the Department’s Undergraduate Advisor, Natalie Ikker, and Director of Undergraduate Studies, Professor Maureen Feeley.

**Internship Panel**

One opportunity for students’ professional development was an internship panel, held in mid-November. Panelists included Lane Garnett (General Atomics Legal Department), Dr. Peter Galderisi (focus on local government), Dr. Matthew Bergman (focus on legal professions, the private sector, and graduate programs in Political Science), Daniel Carillo (UCSD Academic Internship Program), and two Political Science students - Darshan Patel and Evan Anderson - who are both involved in exciting internships. Over 30 students attended the panel and heard first-hand how internships are incredible opportunities to gain relevant work experience, network with those in the field, and connect what is learned in the classroom to real life challenges in the workplace. *Photo credit: Natalie Ikker*

**Resumes and Cover Letters**

Soon after the start of the Winter quarter, students attended a workshop - Resumes and Cover Letters - hosted by Nichola Retzius, one of the Career Advisors at UCSD’s Career Services Center. Students were able to ask Nichola lots of questions throughout the presentation; they heard an insider’s perspective on how to build effective resumes and cover letters for jobs, internships, and graduate schools for Political Science majors. For those who were unable to attend the workshop, please stop by the Career Services Center during their drop-in hours (10:00am - 3:00pm every weekday) to learn more about the free services they have for you!

**Networking and Job Search Strategies for Political Science Majors**

As more of our students look toward graduation, we want to make sure they are prepared! On February 27th, students attended a workshop at the Career Service Center focused on the “how” and “why” of networking early and often, as well as job search strategies students can incorporate while still in school. LinkedIn, Handshake, and the Research Experience & Applied Learning (REAL) Portal are the top resources for UCSD
students. Students also heard from the presenters about various career fields specific to Political Science graduates, including information about the education, skills, and abilities desired by employers of those fields.

First Steps to Studying Abroad for Political Science Majors

Similar to the workshop in Fall quarter, Political Science students interested in studying abroad 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. Interested in studying abroad? If so, don’t wait; call the Study Abroad Office (858-534-1123) today to make an appointment, and review the Department’s web page for studying abroad. Photo credit: Natalie Ikker

Alumni Mentor Program

The Department of Political Science’s Alumni Mentor Program welcomed junior and senior students to connect with the Department’s diverse alumni. Over 50 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 second year, 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 2019-2020 academic year. A sincere “thank you” to all of the mentors who participated this year!
2018 – 2019 Research Apprenticeship Program

The Research Apprenticeship Program is an excellent way for Political Science students to enhance their research and data analysis skills through a hands-on approach. This academic year, the Department has 32 students serving as research assistants for 13 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 can be found on the Department’s website for the program.

Graduate News

2018–2019 Graduate Council

The Graduate Council for the 2018 - 2019 academic year includes:

President: Marco Alcocer
VP Faculty Liaison: Luke Sanford
VP Social Programming: Nick Smith / Rachel Skillman
Treasurer: Christina Cottiero
VP Recruitment: Greg Phillips / Thomas Flaherty / Mike Duda
VP Orientation: Mac Lockhart / Dang Do
GSA Representative: Nate Mariano / Cassidy Reller

Yin Yuan selected to attend 2019 Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research

Graduate student Yin Yuan has been selected to participate in the annual Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research at the Maxwell School of Syracuse University, which will take place in June 2019.

The institute includes two weeks of intensive training. Participants create and critique methodologically sophisticated qualitative research designs, including case studies, tests of necessity or sufficiency, and narrative or interpretive work.
They will also attend a total of 38 sessions, and receive an average of six hours of instruction and discussion each day. There are several hundred pages of required reading, as well as optional area studies and topic meetings.

The Department thanks all of the graduate students who expressed interest and encourages applications for the 2020 Institute.

Faculty News

New Immigration Policy Center Directed by Tom Wong

Political Science faculty member Tom K. Wong will direct the new U.S. Immigration Policy Center (USIPC). Dedicated to rigorous social science on the foundations and consequences of U.S. immigration policy, the U.S. Immigration Policy Center will produce research on immigration debates as they happen. The center’s real-time responsiveness is explicitly meant to help inform decision makers, the media and the public.

The USIPC will investigate U.S. immigration policies, including admissions policies, border security, interior enforcement and immigrant integration. It will also study undocumented populations, immigrant civic engagement, and public attitudes on immigration. In addition to producing data-driven research reports, policy memos and fact sheets, the USIPC will also conduct polling and do evaluation research.

“From DACA to family separation to the border wall, immigration continues to feature prominently in political and policy debates,” said Professor Wong. “The USIPC will bring much needed empirical evidence to the table as we, as a country, continue to grapple with immigration.”

Professor Wong has served as an advisor to the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the Obama administration. He also directs the International Migration Studies minor.

You can learn more about the Center at http://usipc.ucsd.edu.

Congratulations to Professor Molly Roberts!

Her book “Censored: Distraction and Diversion Inside China’s Great Firewall” made it onto Foreign Affairs’ 2018 Best books list.
On December 13, UC San Diego Chancellor Pradeep Khosla joined Professors Fonna Forman (Political Science) and Teddy Cruz (Visual Arts), Lisa Cuestas (CEO, Casa Familiar) and the community of San Ysidro to celebrate the groundbreaking of the UCSD / CASA Community Station, a partnership between the UCSD Center on Global Justice and Casa Familiar.

The UCSD Community Stations are a network of field hubs located in three disadvantaged neighborhoods across the San Diego-Tijuana border region, where research, teaching and community engagement are conducted collaboratively with community partners.

Each of the three stations is developed in close collaboration with a community-based non-profit. The stations are presently in a different stage of physical development, funded by grants secured collaboratively between the UC San Diego Center on Global Justice and the partner non-profit, illustrating how the university and the community can be meaningful partners in co-developing public spaces for education. Research and educational programming is funded by Richard C. Blum and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, among others.

What makes the UCSD / CASA Community Station unique is that it is surrounded by affordable housing, placing education at the center of economic and social development. Both the Community Station and the housing were designed by Cruz and Forman in partnership with Casa Familiar, and the support of Studio E, Architects. The Station includes a small theater, music and sound studios, small pavilions for social and health services and an open-air pavilion for community-engaged arts and cultural programming.

Design and Construction is funded by the PARC Foundation, a grant from ArtPlace America, among other sources, and financial support from Civic San Diego, Capital Impact Partners and Citi Community Capital.

**Contracts and Grants News**

Last fiscal year, the Department of Political Science was awarded $1,405,727 in Contracts and Grants!
This year, we were recently awarded the following grants:

**Daniel Butler, Associate Professor**
Title: *Citizen Influence on Individual Politicians in Party-centered Systems*  
Awarded by: University of Gothenburg

**James Fowler, Professor**
Title: *The Physiognomy of Cooperation*  
Awarded by: Academic Senate

**Erik Gartzke, Professor**
Title: *Startup Funding for cPASS*  
Awarded by: Charles Koch Foundation

**Megumi Naoi, Associate Professor**
Title: *Domestic Politics of Free Trade Agreements*  
Awarded by: The Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership

**Simeon Nichter, Assistant Professor**
Title: *Corruption, Informality, and Small Firms in Brazil*  
Awarded by: Academic Senate

**Agustina Paglayan, Assistant Professor**
Title: *When Does Education Promote Democratic and Civic Values? Evidence from Curriculum Reforms in Mexico, 1960-2010*  
Awarded by: The Spencer Foundation

In addition, the following awards were obtained:

**Erik Gartzke, Professor**
Title: *Out of the Required Research Methods Course and into the Lower Division Classroom: A Case Study in Expanding Undergraduate Exposure to Research in Social Science*  
Funding provided by the Executive Vice Chancellor through the Course Development and Instructional Improvement Program (CDIIP)

Title: *Do Arms Control Treaties Work? The Effectiveness of the Non-Proliferation Regime*  
Funding provided by the Chair of the Political Science Department

**Congratulations to our Researchers!**

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

Welcome Julie Choi (left), our new Graduate Coordinator! Julie started her position as the Political Science Graduate Coordinator in August. She comes to us from GPS. She lives in North County San Diego with two cats, a dog who thinks she’s a cat, and a brand new husband.

Welcome Mariana (with her dog, Lady Bear, left), David (middle), and Alisa (right), our new student assistants! All three started in February and we are happy to have them be an integral part of the Department.