



## Newsletter: Fall 2020

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to our inaugural newsletter. We plan on using this medium to keep in touch and to let you know what is new in the department.

In this first issue, we highlight some important changes in our faculty. Professors [Claudio Katz](#), [Vincent Mahler](#), and [John Pelissero](#) retired this summer and Professors [John Frendreis](#) and [Peter Sanchez](#) will retire at the end of 2020. According to our [estimates](#), our five colleagues have collectively taught close to 20,000 students and published about 6,000 pages of scholarly articles and books. Those of us left in the department will miss them, especially their wisdom and humor. If you wish to stay in touch, you can do so using their Loyola e-mail.

There have also been important changes in the department's leadership this summer. Professor [Peter Schraeder](#) stepped down after eight years as Chair of the department as he took on the very important position of Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. I was asked to serve as [the new Chair of the department](#). Also this summer, Professor [Molly Melin](#) became the new Graduate Program Director and Professor [Robert Mayer](#) our [new](#) Undergraduate Program Director.

Of course, there is other important news below. We hope you will find it of interest. We also hope you will use this opportunity to contact us and let us know how you are doing. We'd like to include alumni updates in future editions, and we're open to your suggestions about the content of the newsletter. Please share your ideas and accomplishments with us.

### **Alex Grigorescu, PhD**

Professor and Chair,  
Political Science Department,  
Loyola University Chicago

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### **IN THE SPOTLIGHT**



### **Professor Claudio J. Katz**

A favorite of students and faculty alike, Claudio Katz began teaching political theory courses in the department the same year the Berlin Wall fell. By his estimate, he graded more than 45,000 pages of undergraduate writing over the

course of thirty years. After serving as Department Chair, Claudio went on to direct the Honors Program in the College of Arts and Sciences for a dozen years.

He relished team-teaching the year-long great books course in which all first-year Honors students are enrolled. Although hardly a Machiavellian himself, Claudio's favorite book to teach was that classic of realism, *The Prince*. He published a book of his own and many scholarly articles, too, including several in the discipline's top journal. Claudio fondly remembers the escalators in that monstrosity of Stalinist architecture, Damen Hall, and the spectacular view from Hussey Lounge on the tenth floor. But his proudest accomplishment, Claudio reports, is his still unbeaten record for the fewest number of departmental meetings in a single academic year. Fortunately, Loyola students will continue to benefit from his learning and good cheer when Claudio returns to the classroom as an emeritus professor in the coming year.



### **Professor Vincent A. Mahler**

A proud Loyola graduate (BA 1971, MA 1973), Vincent Mahler recently celebrated his 40th anniversary as faculty-member at Loyola University Chicago. Vince received his PhD in Political Science from Columbia University in 1979.

He joined the university's political science department when Loyola was mostly a commuter school with very few dorms and only a small number of schools and academic departments. Vince helped the university grow by starting and developing the International Studies program, the most popular interdisciplinary undergraduate major today in the College of Arts and Sciences. Known and loved by many students, Vince taught more than twenty courses in comparative politics, international political economy, international relations, and the politics of Western Europe. In his research, he focused on the effects of state redistribution on income inequality, publishing an award-winning book and numerous scholarly articles, including several in the discipline's flagship journal. Many of his articles were co-authored with his graduate students, who fondly recognize his mentorship and guidance. Vince will continue teaching at Loyola on occasion as professor emeritus, but he will be truly missed by his colleagues and students.



**Professor John Pelissero**

John Pelissero recently retired from the Department of Political Science after a remarkable career of teaching, service, research and leadership at Loyola and beyond. John earned his PhD from the University of Oklahoma and joined the department in 1985.

He soon distinguished himself as a great teacher and prolific scholar, writing on state and local politics with a special emphasis on Chicago politics. His penchant for administrative work and leadership was evident early on: he became the Executive Director of the Midwest Political Science Association in 1990 and held that post for ten years. He helped grow the regional organization into a truly national association for scholars across the subfields of Political Science. Young political scientists would give papers at “Midwest” and then soon be found in print in the very best journals and with teaching positions throughout the nation. John became Department Chair in 1999 but was soon called to a series of leadership roles at Loyola that ultimately led him to the presidency of Loyola University Chicago in 2015-2016. It would be difficult to enumerate his accomplishments during this period but some key Loyola milestones benefitted from his work as Vice Provost and then as Provost and Chief Academic Officer for eight years: a complete revision of the university’s core curriculum; efforts to begin diversification of Loyola’s faculty; the creation of the Institute for Environmental Sustainability as well as Arrupe College, support for record undergraduate enrollments, the creation of a center in Vietnam, and the expansion of endowed professorships across the schools of the university. John mentored many faculty and scores of students during his career at Loyola and even managed to continue active scholarship during his administrative years. He returned to teaching in the department in 2018. A great Loyolan who loves Ramblers basketball and attended regularly, John will be deeply missed by colleagues and students alike.

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## EVENTS



The Hank Center will host

**Catholic Thought, Citizenship, and the Common Good: Election Round-up** on November 5.

**[REGISTER](#)**



### **Hartigan Lecture - October 30**

*The Voting Process in 2020: What Could Go Wrong?*

The panel discussion focused on Election Administration and examined the questions of how people choose to cast their vote and how those votes are tallied.

**[Watch the recording.](#)**

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## FACULTY NEWS

**Dr. Kara Ross Camarena** joined the department as an Assistant Professor in fall 2020. She specializes in the political economy of migration. She earned her PhD from the Department of Government at Harvard University.



She teaches classes on International Relations, Migration and Quantitative Methods. Her research asks questions about how human mobility and conflict interact and considers implications for development and foreign aid. Her work has been published in the *American Journal of Political Science* and *PLOS One*. Kara has done fieldwork in East Africa and partnered with private, government, and non-governmental organizations to evaluate programming related to migrants and development.

**Dr. David Doherty** (Political Science) and **Dr. Dana Garbarski** (Sociology) received an internal grant to field a survey of Cook County residents about issues that are particularly salient in urban areas, including policing practices, environmental issues, and neighborhood gentrification dynamics. This project is primarily a vehicle for engaging undergraduate students in original research. This fall, six students are collaborating to design and field the survey. In the spring, students will analyze the data and write up findings from the survey. Ultimately the project is expected to yield a combination of articles, op-eds, and white papers that will be of interest not only to researchers, but also to local stakeholders.

The faculty members are seeking external funding that will allow this project to be repeated on an annual basis. If you are interested in learning more about the project, please contact Professor Doherty at [ddoherty@luc.edu](mailto:ddoherty@luc.edu).

### **Recent Faculty Publications with Students**

Doherty, David, Amanda C. Bryan, Dina Hanania (UG), and Matthew Pajor (UG). 2020. "[The Public's Foreign Aid Priorities: Evidence from a Conjoint Experiment.](#)" *American Politics Research* 48: 635-648.

Doherty, David, Peter J. Schraeder, and Kirstie L. Dobbs (Grad). 2020. "[Do Democratic Revolutions 'Activate' Participants?: The Case of Tunisia.](#)" *Politics* 40: 170-188.

Doherty, David, Amanda C. Bryan, Reid Willis (UG), and Paul Witry (UG). 2019. "[Representation Imperatives in the Public Mind.](#)" *Social Science Quarterly* 100:1963-1983.

Grigorescu, Alexandru, and Caglayan Baser (Grad.). 2019.

"Intergovernmentalism vs. Nongovernmentalism: Projecting Domestic Preferences to Global Governance" *World Politics* 71(1): 88-125.

Melin, Molly M, and Paul Olander (Grad.). "Supply Side Incentives for Mediation—Which Actors Mediate International Crises?" 2019. In *Research Handbook on Mediating International Crises*, ed. Jonathan Wilkenfeld, Kyle Beardsley, David Quinn. Edward Elgar Publishing. 94-108.

Schumacher, Michael J. (Grad.), & Schraeder, Peter J. 2020. "A 'Tale of Two Jihadis'? Improperly Conflating Terrorists and Foreign Fighters in the Arab Spring." *Behavioral Sciences of Terrorism and Political Aggression* 12(2): 118-139.

### **Faculty Books in 2020**

**Dr. Meghan Condon** published *The Economic Other: Inequality in the American Political Imagination* (with Amber Wichowsky), with Chicago University Press.

**Dr. Alex Grigorescu** published *The Ebb and Flow of Global Governance: Intergovernmentalism versus Nongovernmentalism in World Politics*, with Cambridge University Press.

### **Faculty Press Appearances**

**Dr. Twyla Blackmond Larnell** recently appeared on WTTW's Chicago Tonight to [discuss](#) Race and the 2020 Republican National Convention.

**Dr. Jennifer Forestal** appeared in the Washington Post with her [commentary](#) on the Broadway musical, Hamilton.

**Dr. Alex Grigorescu** commented on the U.S. pulling out of the World Health Organization in a [blog](#) published in "Brink," an online magazine run by *The Atlantic Monthly*.

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## **STUDENT NEWS**

**Theresa Colston** received the 2020 Feller Scholarship Award. The award, generously endowed by the Feller family, is given to the senior political science major graduating with the highest GPA.

**Paul Olander**, our graduate student, became a recipient of Peace Scholar Fellowship for 2020-21 from the United States Institute of Peace. This award will help Paul to complete his dissertation research and writing.

**The Loyola Model UN Club** participated in the online American Model UN Conference in Chicago during the weekend of October 23-25, 2020. **Dr. Brian Endless**, a faculty advisor for the club, serves as the President of the Board for this Conference.

**Moot Court, 2019-2020 season:** The Loyola Moot Court team earned three bids to the national championship tournament. It is the best the Loyola program has ever done in regional competition. Loyola is ranked the 19th best moot court program in the country in oral advocacy.

**Mock Trial, 2019-2020 season:** Loyola A team went 6-2 in regional competition and earned a bid to the first round of national competition. At the first round of national competition, our A team put on quite a show, finishing the tournament with a resounding 2-ballot win over the University of Michigan's A team and ending the tournament with a 5-3 record, and thereby earning the host bid to the national championship tournament. Unfortunately, due to COVID 19 pandemic the national tournament was suspended.

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We encourage you to share your news with Dr. Olga Avdeyeva ([oavdeyeva@luc.edu](mailto:oavdeyeva@luc.edu)) or Dr. Susan Dimock ([sdimock@luc.edu](mailto:sdimock@luc.edu)) for a future Alumni News section of the newsletter.

Please consider making a [gift to the Political Science Department](#).



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