



# PSC CHRONICLE

Department of Political Science, DePaul University

Spring 2017



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*“And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years.”*

-Abraham Lincoln

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## From the Department Chair

Dr. Valerie C. Johnson

### In it to Win it!

The election season is over, but the madness continues. A seismic shift has taken place in American politics, as fake news and twitter wars have pervaded the airwaves, and sup-  
 planted old fashioned civil discourse. What a wonderful time to study politics!! Americans throughout the ideological spectrum have taken to the streets, making demands on government officials, and reclaiming democracy in town hall meetings and forums across the nation. Countless people have awakened to the realization that elections do matter, and that they've got to be in it to win it! I hope that each and every political science major, colleague, and alum will jump into the fray by engaging the issues, holding political leaders accountable, volunteering, offering political analysis and commentary, protesting, and questioning outdated assumptions that divide us. Everyone has a voice, and the time has come to use yours! "We are the leaders we've been waiting for."

Spring quarter has gotten off to a great start with new and exciting course offerings including, Organizing for Social and Political Justice, How to Get Elected, and Trump: The First 100 Days. We invite you to engage us in the classroom, on Movie Night, and in Faculty Chats and other departmental events. Please join us for Professor May's internship information session on April 20 (see page 5), and our Alumni Panel on May 4 (page 7)

This edition of PSC Chronicle spotlights Professor Larry Bennett, as we prepare to celebrate his brilliant career, marked by dedication to students and colleagues, and academic excellence. Kudos to Model UN, and our Mock Trial team for a winning season (page 6)!!

As always, we invite you to connect with us. Please send us updates and news. We would love to hear from you.

## Academic Advising Corner

Estela Barragan

Spring is my absolute favorite time of the academic year as there are so many wonderful students graduating and embarking on new journeys! Wherever life takes you, we hope that your time at DePaul has made an impact on your life.

Graduating seniors, the last day to order cap & gown in May 1st! Please note that ordering your cap and gown serves as your RSVP for the graduation ceremony. If you have questions about the ceremony, please contact [LASGraduation@depaul.edu](mailto:LASGraduation@depaul.edu). I look forward to seeing you at the commencement ceremony bright and early at 7am!

I will be away from the office May 17th - May 30th. If you have academic advising related questions while I'm gone, please contact the Liberal Arts Advising office located in Clifton Corners Suite 130. You can reach the office by emailing [lasadvising@depaul.edu](mailto:lasadvising@depaul.edu) or calling 773-325-7310.

For students not graduating this Spring and Summer, see you in the fall!



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# Faculty Spotlight

Dr. Larry Bennett

## Where are you from originally?

I was born in Louisville, Kentucky, and though my family moved around the Midwest and upper South in my early years. I consider myself to have grown up in the suburbs of Louisville.

## Where did you go to school? Undergraduate? Graduate/Doctorate?

I earned my bachelor's degree in "Government" at the College of William & Mary. Yes...Government, not political science (much too contemporary-sounding, don't you think?). I earned Master's and Ph.D degrees at Rutgers University in urban and regional planning.

## In your opinion, what is the most rewarding aspect of your career at DePaul?

This is difficult to answer. I've found various things rewarding: those particular class sessions when—as an instructor—you can see that a large portion of the students are invested in the material; working one-on-one with students...in some cases very strong students who are doing independent studies or are just very interested in some piece of course subject matter...but also, with more challenged students whom you observe make real gains in writing or the ability to conceptualize complex points; and also, collegial relationships...friendships with individual faculty members, or the experience of working well collaboratively on a variety of faculty committees. I've found other things rewarding as well, but in terms of my experience as a faculty member at this particular university, those are the highlights.

## How has the field of political science changed in the years since you started teaching?

I won't comment on political science in general, but in terms of urban politics I think that research has veered toward fairly technical analysis that often misses larger questions. When I started teaching in the late 1970s, there was a real buzz in urban politics over the condition of cities, the legacies of the wild 1960s, and the introduction of new ideas from European scholars, and other disciplines such as geography. Right now, I don't feel that kind of ferment, but I think periods of uproar/innovation versus "normal science" run in cycles. And certainly, the rise of movements, such as Black Lives Matter, and the widespread journalistic and scholarly re-engagement with matters such as police/urban community relations may soon enough produce a new ferment in the study of urban politics.

## What are some of your plans for retirement?

My wife is determined to study Italian, so I'll do that as well. I would also like to turn my rudimentary French into a more useful communication tool. And if we study language, we must travel, yes? I have a huge library of pre-digital visual material—color slides—that I want to pare down, classify more carefully, and to some degree digitize. I am a committed music listener/fan and record collector, so I will continue my quest to create the perfect LP collection of 60s R&R, soul, jazz, 70s funk, and esoteric punk. My wife and I also hope to spend time in the winter months nearer our son, daughter-in-law, and granddaughter, who live Alexandria, Virginia.

## What are some of your hobbies or interests outside of work?

Oops! I think I've covered this just above.

## Happy Retirement!

Thursday, May 18th

5-7pm location TBA



Retired professors Harry Wray and David Barnum with Professor Larry Bennett



## Important Dates:

- ◆ March 25, 2017  
Spring Quarter begins
- ◆ March 31, 2017 Last day to add classes to SQ schedule
- ◆ April 7, 2017 Last day to drop classes with no penalty and last day to select P/F status
- ◆ April 8, 2017 Grades of "W" assigned to SQ classes dropped on or after this day
- ◆ April 13, 2017 Last day to select auditor status
- ◆ April 14, 2017 Good Friday—**University Closed**
- ◆ April 27, 2017 Registration for AQ opens
- ◆ May 12, 2017 Last day to withdraw from SQ classes
- ◆ May 29, 2017 Memorial Day—**University Closed**
- ◆ June 2, 2017 **Senior Party @McGees 5-8pm**
- ◆ June 3, 2017 **Final Exam week**
- ◆ June 11, 2017 **Commencement**



# Student Spotlight

Puja Taylor

## Do you study any subject other than Political Science?

I hope to learn the Arabic language proficiently so I can use it with respect to my career in the future. I am also concentrating my major towards economics and international studies because those two fields are where my occupational aspirations lie.

## What has been your favorite PSC course?

My favorite course, thus far, was with Professor Scott Hibbard. The class was, 'Intro to International Relations'. I highly recommend it to all PSC students, especially to those interested in foreign policy. It's a knowledgeable intro course that Professor Hibbard teaches with effective discussion and enthusiasm!

## What are your plans for the Summer?

I will be interning at the Cook County State's Attorney's Office, in the Criminal Court Building. It will be a clerkship, where I will be learning under different departments, such as the Narcotics Prosecutions Bureau, Financial Crimes, and the Felony Trial Division. Learning about the criminal justice system firsthand in the city of Chicago is a unique experience in itself, so I am very excited for the coming months.

## What has been your most memorable experience while at DePaul?

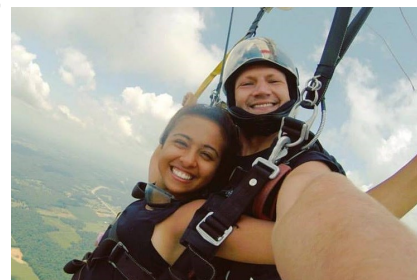
Last year, I was a part of the DePaul Mock Trial Team. This is a club that entails vigorous work, critical thinking, and efficient team orientation. Altogether, those late nights studying the case packets, practicing our roles, and competing with other schools whether we won or lost, has taught me worthwhile skills that I will always look back on and apply to my life. Being a varsity team member of the Mock Trial Team has definitely been one of my most memorable experiences at DePaul so far.

## What is something you look forward to in the coming future?

In Fall of 2017, I will be studying abroad in Leuven, Belgium! Not only will I be taking courses and living there for a quarter, I will also be interning under a member of the European Parliament. I have never traveled to Europe before so I am eager to venture and see what is out there, as well as challenge myself in a new environment.

## What is your ideal job?

My ideal job would be working for the State Department. I would love to be a foreign services officer for the U.S. Department of State and work on policies that would help solve global problems. A job that encompasses government in a worldwide perspective would be so awesome. I hope to work my way up to do exactly this, and reach that end goal, because hey, the sky's the limit!



## Featured Course

### PSC 251-Russian Politics

Professor Richard Farkas



The political situation in Washington has certainly forced folks to sit up and pay attention. While uncertainty reigns in many respects, one relationship has re-emerged in our consciousness: Russian -American relations. The American people, the media generally, and DePaul students often focus on events and places when they present challenges to us. The Fall election, the search for clarity about our relationship with Russia, and the questions surrounding who is defining and shaping those contacts all have re-ignited interest in our students to know more in a calculating, responsible and meaningful way. Political Science offers two courses that can fill this void.

PSC 251 Russian Politics is on the schedule for Spring and has over-enrolled significantly. Prof. Farkas has allowed this, reasoning that the timing to spread a solid understanding of how Russia works is pressing. He has allowed all those on the waitlist to enroll. This course will delve into the details of the contemporary Russian system, focusing on its domestic dimensions. While the course is online, there will be special weekly optional sessions for face-to-face discussions on select topics. PSC 243, Russian-American Relations, will be offered next academic year and every indication is that it will continue to be a hot topic for student investigation. If you have any questions about this general topic, contact Prof. Farkas in room 2211, 990 W. Fullerton, Ave.

### Looking for an Internship? PSC 392

Did you know that you can get academic credit for your internship through the Department of Political Science? PSC 392 can count towards your **Experiential Learning** requirement or a **PSC 200/300- level PSC elective**. For more information, please contact Professor Cathy May at CMay1@depaul.edu.

Information session/ orientation will be held on Tuesday, April 20th, 4:30-5:30, in room 2212 in 990 W. Fullerton Ave.

## Midwest Political Science Association

### Meri Bennett- Swanson

Congratulations to PSC Student, Meri Bennet - Swanson, who presented at the 75th Annual MPSA Conference!

Meri's *Partisanship, Racial Conceptions, and Political Communication of #BlackLivesMatter vs. #BlueLivesMatter* was presented at a poster session on "Parties and Partisanship."



PSC 399 - Independent Study with Prof. Wayne Steger

### Professor Ben Epstein

Nobody knows you better than you do.

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### Professor Molly Andolina

The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much, it is whether we provide enough for those who have little.

-FDR

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### Professor Zachary Cook

Life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans.

-John Lennon

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### Professor Rose Spalding

La lucha sigue.

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### Professor Joe Mello

Justice without power is impotent; power without justice is tyranny.

-Pascal

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### Professor Valerie Johnson

We are the leaders we are waiting for.

- Grace Lee Boggs

## Prof. Richard Farkas

Believing passionately in something that does not exist, we create it. The non-existent is whatever we have not sufficiently desired.

-Kafka

## Prof. Kathleen Arnold

Minorities [including women] often hate theory because they view it as the “sacred verbiage of those who dominate them” and because it is therefore, the “institutionalized expression of *their* consciousness and *their* view of the situation is the only one to be transmitted, diffused and expounded.” In contrast, the “intolerable texts” written by minority theorists are often rejected— “Fanon, Marx’s Eighteenth Brumaire, Kate Millet’s *Sexual Politics*...*The Second Sex* of de Beauvoir” were all “received with great contempt.” “These minority texts” are “considered to be both lightweight *and* dangerous...a joke and a threat. ***But, afterwards, it will never again be possible to view the problems in the same way as before***” Colette Guillaumin, *Racism, Sexism, Power and Ideology*. - Guillaumin

## Mock Trial Team

The DePaul Mock Trial team finished 2nd Place at the St. Francis Invitation Tournament in January. Jacob Vurpillat earned a best attorney award and Narmin Hasanova earned a best witness award.

At the February tournament held in Columbus, Ohio, the DePaul Mock Trial Team qualified to compete in the National Tournament. In addition to the team award, Emma Landry and Juliana Arruda both won best attorney awards and Juliana won a best witness award as well.



Mock Trial will be competing in Hamilton, Ohio on 3/24 - 3/26. Should the team place 6th or better at this tournament, they will earn a spot at the National Tournament in Los Angeles in mid-April. To the best of our knowledge, no DePaul team has made it past ORCS, but they have a very good chance this year.

**Best of luck!**

## Model UN

In Autumn 2017, Prof. Tillman will teach a 2-credit-hour Model UN course (PSC 281) that introduces students to the UN, parliamentary procedure, diplomacy, and statecraft. It is designed to help students develop their understanding of the practices and tools for participation in Model UN and of the UN and international relations generally. It is open to all students interested in Model UN; no prior experience or permission is required.



DePaul students who participated in the 2017 Washington University Model United Nations Conference (WUMUNC)



# Book Recommendations from PSC Faculty

## Books Every College Student Should Read

**Professor Ben Epstein:** *Roots* by Alex Haley

**Professor Molly Andolina:** *Darkness at Noon* by Arthur Koestler, *Burger's Daughter* by Nadine Gordimer, *Book of Laughter and Forgetting* by Milan Kundera, *As I Lay Dying* by William Faulkner, and *Love in the Time of Cholera* by Gabriel Garcia - Marquez

**Professor Richard Farkas:** *How We Survived Communism and Even Laughed* by Slavenka Drakulic

**Professor Joe Mello:** *Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?* By Martin Luther King Jr.

**Professor Rose Spalding:** *1984* by George Orwell

**Professor Katherine Ibata-Arens:** *It Can't Happen Here* by Sinclair Lewis and *1984* by George Orwell

**Professor Catherine May:** *The Myth of Sisyphus* by Albert Camus

**Professor Kathleen Arnold:** *Sciences as a Vocation* and *Politics as a Vocation* by Max Weber, *Message to the Grassroots* by Malcolm X, *Women and Theories About Society - the Effects of the Anger and Oppressed* by Colette Guilaumin

**Professor Zachary Cook:** *Kindly Inquisitors: The New Attacks on Free Thought* by Jonathan Rauch, *Who Are We? The Challenges to America's National Identity* by Samuel Huntington

**Professor William Denton:** *The Tragedy of Great Power Politics* by John Mearsheimer

**Professor Valerie Johnson:** *Pedagogy of the Oppressed* by Paulo Freire

## PSC Course Schedule

### Summer 2017

#### PSC 120

The American Political System  
MoWe 9:00am - 12:15pm  
6/12- 7/16

#### PSC 150

Introduction to Comparative Politics  
TuTh 9:00am - 12:15pm  
7/17- 8/20

#### PSC 201

Geographic Information System  
MoWe 9:00am - 12:15pm  
6/12- 7/16

#### PSC 231

Modern Political Thought  
TuTh 9:00am - 12:15pm  
6/12- 7/16

#### PSC 242

American Foreign Policy  
Online ----6/12-8/20

#### PSC 319

Advanced Topics in Political Culture (2 courses)  
Topic: Social Movement  
Topic: Queer Pioneers/culture/gender

#### PSC 352

Chinese Politics  
Online ----6/12-8/20

#### PSC 359

Advanced Topics in Comparative Politics : Israeli- Palestinian conflict  
TuTh 1:30 pm - 4:45pm  
6/12- 7/16

### From DePaul Student to Workforce

**Thursday, May 4<sup>th</sup> 2017**  
4:45pm - 6:00pm  
**Arts & Letters, Room 412**

Guest speaker bio's coming soon!



Join us for a casual discussion about life after graduation with DePaul PSC Alumni.

#network #careeradvise #PSCAlumni #Graduation #Intern



## DePaul Resources

### Career Center

2320 N. Kenmore Avenue, Suite 192

Phone: 773-325-7431

Website: [Careercenter.depaul.edu](http://Careercenter.depaul.edu)

### University Counseling Center

2250 N. Sheffield Avenue, Suite 350

Phone: 773-325-7779

Website: [offices.depaul.edu/student-affairs/about/department/Pages/ucs.aspx](http://offices.depaul.edu/student-affairs/about/department/Pages/ucs.aspx)

### DePaul Central/ Financial Aid

2323 N. Kenmore Avenue, Suite 101

Phone: 312-362-8610

Website: [offices.depaul.edu/depaul-central/Pages/default.aspx](http://offices.depaul.edu/depaul-central/Pages/default.aspx)

### Stay connected with PSC

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