



3rd Annual Community College Mini-Conference
April 10-11, 2020
J.W. Marriott, L.A. Live
“Strengthening Communities of Belonging”

Agenda

Registration

7:00 am to 4:00 pm
 Room: TBD

WPSA Registration
Required to participate in the proceedings
 You may also preregister at: https://www.wpsanet.org/forms/reg_form.php

Day 1: Friday, April 10

1:30 pm to 2:00 pm
 Room TBD

Introduction to the Mini Conference and Opening Address
Tanya B. Schwarz, Director, Teaching & Learning American Political Science Association

2:00 pm to 3:15 pm
 Room TBD

Panel 1.1: Approaches to creating equity-minded political science discipline

Presentation: **“California Community Colleges as Democratic Spaces: A case study at Monterey Peninsula College”**
Lauren Blanchard (Monterey Peninsula College), Sheila Morales (Monterey Peninsula College), Reem Benny (Monterey Peninsula College), and Jhailyn Bryant (Monterey Peninsula College)

Presentation: **“Finding diversity in a “monoculture:” Introducing rural Wyoming students to a global community”**
Jason Charrette (Casper College), Nathan Blank (Casper College)

Presentation: **“OER in the Community Colleges: Developing, Using, and Sharing Common Resources”**
Steven Cauchon (Imperial Valley College), Elsa Dias (Pikes Peak Community College), Josue Franco (Cuyamaca Community College), Dino Bozonelos (Victor Valley Community College), and Michelle Rodriguez (San Diego Mesa Community College)

Chair: Rogelio Garcia (garciar3@elac.edu), East Los Angeles College.

3:15 pm to 3:30 pm

Break

3:30 pm to 4:45 pm
Room TBD

Panel 1.2: Strengthening Lines of Communication in Political Science Curriculum: A Holistic Perspective

Presentation: "**Fostering a Civically Engaged Community on Campus through Political Science Events**"

Kenneth Chaiprasert (East Los Angeles College), Rogelio Garcia (East Los Angeles College), Jeffrey Hernandez (East Los Angeles College), Natalina Monteiro (East Los Angeles College), Maria Quintero (East Los Angeles College), Kelly Velasquez (East Los Angeles College)

Presentation: "**Culture and Conflict: Interdisciplinary Approaches in Study Abroad Course**

Bob Gumbrecht (Colorado Mountain College)

Chair: Colin Moore (Colin.Moore@slcc.edu), Salt Lake Community College

4:45 pm to 6:00 pm
Room TBD

Panel 1.3: Community Colleges as a Political Science Laboratory

Presentation: "**Vota? Por Pedro? Impact that community colleges have in increasing a Latino student's likelihood of voting**"

Rosalinda M. Valenzuela (Collin College)

Workshop: "**Developing Strategies to Encourage Participatory Learning in the Political Science Discipline**"

TJ Kimel (Midlands Technical College)

Chair: Vanna Gonzales (VGonzales@contracosta.edu), Contra Costa College

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Room TBD

WPSA Opening Reception

Must be registered to the WPSA conference to attend

Day 2: Saturday, April 11

8:00 am to 8:30 am
Room TBD

Continental Breakfast

8:30 am to 9:00 am
Room TBD

Day 2 Opening Address

Richard Clucas, Executive Director, Western Political Science Association

9:00 am to 10:15 am
Room TBD

Session 2.1: "The Road from Contingency to Tenure: Securing Full Time Employment at the Community College Level"

The process of community college contingency (or adjunct) faculty cracking open that hard nut and landing that elusive full-time position at a community college can often be daunting and challenging. This panel will help break down and discuss some strategies and techniques that have been used by candidates to successfully join the labor market of full time/tenure track community college professors. Among the questions that will be addressed are: What can graduate students looking toward a CC/teaching driven academic career do to make them viable candidates on the job market? How can contingency faculty improve their CV's/applications to stand out as strong candidates to be selected for an interview? What should candidates selected for an interview expect to encounter during the interview process? What kinds of questions should they prepare for? Does having a ., as opposed to an M.A., matter to search committees?

Panelists: Peter Bowman (Palomar College), Kenneth Chaiprasert (East Los Angeles College), Elsa Dias (Pikes Peak Community College), Fred Monardi (College of Southern Nevada)

Chair: Steven Cauchon (steven.cauchon@imperial.edu), Imperial Valley College

10:15 am to 10:30 am	Break
10:30 am to 11:45 am	<p>Session 2.2: “The Challenges & Rewards of a Community College Career”</p> <p>Being a political science professor at a community college is very different from an academic career at a four year/research institution. Those considering a career at the two-year level should know both the challenges and rewards of teaching at a community college. This panel will address important questions and matters that will help would-be community college faculty to make the decision to join the profession. Among the topics discussed will be: How different and important is teaching and pedagogy at the Community College level, compared to the four-year level? Can a community college political scientist also have a research agenda? How different is the critical mass of a Community College student population from university students in terms of academic preparation and demographic factors such as socio-economic status, age, ethnicity, etc.? What kind of administrative duties should a CC faculty member expect to encounter, in terms of institutional service and shared governance?</p> <p><i>Panelists: Rogelio Garcia (East Los Angeles College), Jeffrey Hernandez (East Los Angeles College), Maria Quintero (East Los Angeles College), Kelly Velasquez (East Los Angeles College)</i></p> <p>Chair: Kenneth Chairprasert (chairprkv@elac.edu), East Los Angeles College</p>
12:00 pm to 1:30 pm Room TBD	APSA-Sponsored Mini Conference Lunch
1:30 pm to 2:45 pm	<p>Session 2.3: “Failing the Grade: How Lack of Faculty Diversity Hurts Our Students and Our Discipline”</p> <p>A recent study on the lack of diversity in the California Community College system reveals that “...today 69% of students enrolled in college in California are ethnically or racially diverse, yet over 60% of college faculty and senior leadership on California’s campuses and 74% of Academic Senators are White.” These statistics are not exclusive to California. They are a part of a national problem of exclusion. This panel seeks to engage in a productive dialogue on the causes of exclusion of faculty in community college throughout the country as well as its potential negative effects on the students that we serve.</p> <p><i>Panelists: Rosalinda M. Valenzuela (Collin College), TBD</i></p> <p>Chair: Natalina Monteiro (monteint@elac.edu), East Los Angeles College</p>
2:45 pm to 3:00 pm	Break
3:00 pm to 4:00 pm Room TBD	<p>Session 2.4: Major Danger: What Community College Faculty Can Do to Mentor Political Science Majors – A Student, Faculty Perspective</p> <p>This panel seeks to share strategies employed by various community college partners in mentoring political science students. Also, the discussants will draw from their own experiences of navigating through the community college system and how they arrived at political science as a major. The panel will include current community college students and faculty. Among the questions that will be explored will include, what can be done to recruit more students of color into majoring in political science? What are some best practices for explain political science to interested students? Perhaps most importantly of all, how can community colleges (faculty, administration, etc) provide a realistic picture of political science career options?</p> <p><i>Panelists: Robert Morin (Western Nevada College), Erich Frankland (Casper College), Rogelio Garcia (East Los Angeles College), community college students TBD</i></p> <p>Chair: Fred Monardi (fred.monardi@csn.edu), College of Southern Nevada</p>
4:00 pm	Closing Remarks