About our Contributors

Art Auerbach received BA degrees in political science and environmental studies from the University of California, Santa Barbara. He went on to attain a JD from Pepperdine University School of Law and practiced as a state prosecutor for 10 years with the California Attorney General’s office in Los Angeles. In 2000, he left the practice of law to pursue a PhD, and earned his degree from the University of Southern California (USC). Auerbach is a teaching professor within the Department of Political Science and International Relations at USC and teaches a variety of courses within Public Law. He is also the internship director of the Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics where he works with undergraduates at all stages of their academic careers to help them gain real-world experience prior to graduation.

John C. Berg recently retired after 42 years at Suffolk University. He is the founding chair of the Section on Political Science Education, a former chair of the New Political Science Section, and former Reviews Editor of *New Political Science*. His latest book, *Leave It in the Ground: The Politics of Coal and Climate*, was published by ABC-CLIO in 2019.

Iva Božović is an Associate Professor of Teaching in the Department of Political Science and International Relations at the University of Southern California. Her research explores the interaction of formal and informal institutions with implications for private sector development, governance, and corruption. Her published works have examined the role of social capital and social networks in the growth of small- and medium-sized businesses in post-communist economies. Bozovic also consults with international development organizations and their partners about issues related to private sector development. She teaches courses in international political economy, development, economic institutions and trade, and is also the head of the International Relations Undergraduate Internship Program. She received her PhD in Political Economy and MA in Economics at USC.

Scott Braam is a doctoral candidate at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) and is currently a political science and urban politics adjunct professor at Elmhurst University. He worked closely with university student interns and instructed the Political Science Internships course at UIC, 2016–2019. Braam studies urban neighborhood transformation via gentrification and the role of urban aesthetics including public art murals. Currently he is working on his dissertation, titled, “Reflections of Power: Three Eras of Muralism in Chicago’s Pilsen Neighborhood.”

Amy Cabrera Rasmussen is Professor of Political Science at California State University Long Beach. She has been an active participant in a variety of spaces, both on-campus and off, regarding matters of equity-driven student success, life design, and community engagement. She has for years taught an internship course for CSULB’s College of Liberal Arts, was part of the team that launched an innovative and equity-minded nonprofit internship project, and is the director of Design Your Long Beach—a program to help students design careers to positively impact the local community. Cabrera Rasmussen is also one of the founding directors of APSA’s Institute for Civically Engaged Research (ICER) and is a long-time participant in a local environmental justice collaborative. She teaches and researches US politics and public policy with a focus on health and the environment. She earned her PhD at Yale University and has received fellowships from the Ford Foundation and the American Association of University Women, among others.
Cynthia Chávez Metoyer is Professor of Political Science at California State University San Marcos. She joined the faculty in 1994 to develop the Latin American politics curriculum and has served as Political Science Department Internship Coordinator since 1999. Her teaching and research interests include Latin American politics, gender and development, and comparative politics. Since June 2015, Chávez Metoyer has served as the founding Faculty Director of the University Office of Internships and has developed a university-wide internship course to serve students whose majors do not offer an internship course. As a first-generation college graduate, she believes experiential learning is essential to students’ success.

Michelle L. Chin (PhD, MA, Texas A&M University) is the academic director for the Archer Center, the Washington, DC campus of the University of Texas system. Prior to joining the Archer Center, Michelle was senior researcher and policy analyst at the Learning Policy Institute. She is a former APSA Congressional Fellow (2006–07) and congressional staffer, working for more than eight years as an education policy advisor for US Senator John Cornyn of Texas. Chin’s college internship with Rep. Joe Barton (Texas) led to a full-time job in his office the following year; she left after four years to attend graduate school. From 2001–2006, Michelle was an assistant professor of political science at Arizona State University where she also served as program director of the ASU Capital Scholars Program (2002–04).

Richard A. Clucas is Professor of Political Science in the Political Science Department at Portland State University and the Executive Director of the Western Political Science Association (WPSA). Clucas has written extensively on legislative politics, state government, and Oregon politics. Among other works, he is co-author of The Character of Democracy (Oxford University Press), co-editor of Governing Oregon (Oregon State University Press), and the set editor for the encyclopedia series, About State Government (ABC-CLIO). He has directed the Political Science Internship Program at PSU for 26 years.

Bobbi Gentry is Associate Professor of Political Science at Bridgewater College as a scholar of teaching and learning who focuses on improving student engagement in the classroom through simulations, policy problem/solution proposals, and research projects. She is also a youth voting scholar and does extensive research in political identity development. Gentry has recently published her book, Why Youth Vote: Identity, Inspirational Leaders, and Independence (Springer, 2018). Her current work on the scholarship of teaching and learning includes best practices in internships, curriculum review in higher education, and identity development in the political science classroom.

Clinton M. Jenkins is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at Birmingham-Southern College. He studies political behavior and political communication. His current research focuses on political socialization and the political development of adolescents. In addition, he is engaged in scholarship on teaching and learning in political science. He is a frequent participant at APSA’s Teaching and Learning conferences, where he has presented multiple papers on internships and teaching writing to political science majors. He holds an MA and PhD in American Politics and Quantitative Methodology from The George Washington University. In addition, he holds a BA in Political Science from York College of Pennsylvania.

Diane J. Lowenthal is an Assistant Professor at American University (AU). She spent seven years as Associate Dean and Senior Associate Dean in the School of Professional and Extended Studies after 12 years teaching in the Washington Semester Program. She earned her PhD in Social and Decision Sciences from Carnegie Mellon University and her AB from the University of Michigan. She has authored several articles studying decision making in different political contexts and co-authored “Making the Grade: How a Semester in Washington May Influence Future Academic Performance” (Journal of Political Science Education, 2007) and “The Forgotten Educator: Experiential Learning’s Internship Supervisor” (JPSE, 2016). This research received awards from the APSA (2014) and National Society for Experiential Education (2019).
Daniel J. Mallinson is an Assistant Professor of Public Policy and Administration at Penn State Harrisburg. His research and teaching interests include policy diffusion, federalism, health policies, and pedagogy. He serves as a member of the APSA Committee on the Status of First Generation Scholars in the Profession (2021–2023). In 2020, he received the Theodore J. Lowi Award for the best paper in the Policy Studies Journal from the APSA Public Policy Section.

Alison Rios Millett McCartney (PhD, University of Virginia) is Professor of Political Science and Faculty Director of the Honors College at Towson University. She is co-editor of Teaching Civic Engagement Across the Disciplines (2017) and Teaching Civic Engagement: From Student to Active Citizen (2013; both APSA publications), and also publications and webinars on European politics, civic engagement education, and pedagogy. She has received numerous awards for service and teaching, including the University of Maryland Board of Regents Faculty Award for Mentoring, and the Distinguished Service award from the Political Science Education section of APSA, of which she is a past president. Currently she sits on the Steering Committee of the American Democracy Project of the AAC&U and the Executive Board of the Maryland Collegiate Honors Council. She co-created and co-chairs the Towson University-Baltimore County Model United Nations conference, a free civic engagement program for local youth. She teaches diplomacy, civic engagement, and European politics.

Shannon McQueen is an Assistant Professor of Political Science at West Chester University. Her research focuses on the importance and influence of women’s involvement in politics, the mobilization of women’s groups, and the institutional, cultural, and policy obstacles women face when running for office. Additionally, she is engaged in scholarship concerning internships, civic engagement, and metacognition in the classroom. She earned an MA and PhD in American Politics and Public Policy from The George Washington University.

Christina Sciabarra is a faculty member in Political Science and in the Neurodiversity Navigators program at Bellevue College. She previously served as the Director of the Center for Career Connections and the Women’s Center and facilitated the creation, implementation and teaching of Bellevue College’s First-Year Seminar program. Sciabarra holds a PhD in Political Science from the University of Arizona and her research focuses on post-civil war peacebuilding.

Dick Simpson has taught for 55 years. At the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) he received the highest awards given for teaching, including the UIC Silver Circle Award, CETL Teaching Recognition Award, the UIC award for Excellence in Teaching, and the APSA and Pi Sigma Alpha National Award for Outstanding Teaching in Political Science. He also received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Political Science Education Section of APSA. He was UIC Political Science Department Head from 2006–2012. He has published over 25 books and over 100 journal and magazine articles, and newspaper op-eds.

Jeffrey K. Sosland is an Assistant Professor at American University. He teaches Global Economics and Business for the Washington Semester Program. He is author of Cooperating Rivals: The Riparian Politics of the Jordan River Basin (SUNY Press, 2007) and co-authored “Making the Grade: How a Semester in Washington May Influence Future Academic Performance” (JPSE, 2007) and “The Forgotten Educator: Experiential Learning’s Internship Supervisor” (JPSE, 2016). This research received awards from the APSA Political Science Education Section (2014) and National Society for Experiential Education (2019). He earned his PhD from Georgetown University and AB at Harvard University.
Renée Bukovchik Van Vechten (PhD, University of California, Irvine), Professor of Political Science, holds the Fletcher Jones Endowed Chair in American Politics and Policy at the University of Redlands. She is the author of California Politics: A Primer, now in its 6th edition (CQ Press/SAGE), and is the recipient of several grants and awards for teaching, including the Rowman and Littlefield Award for Innovative Teaching in Political Science (2008). She is actively engaged in the scholarship of teaching and learning, and received the best APSA conference paper award presented through the Political Science Education section in 2020 (with Maureen Feeley, co-author). She is a former APSA Council member, having chaired the Teaching and Learning Policy Committee (2017–19); she is also a past president of the PSE member section of APSA. Van Vechten also advises UofR’s Pi Sigma Alpha honor society chapter and is an executive board and executive committee member of the national organization.

Susan L. Wiley is an Associate Professor of Political Science at The George Washington University. Along with her teaching duties in Political Science she serves as the department’s Director of Undergraduate Studies, leads the undergraduate internship program, and teaches quantitative methods in the Graduate School of Political Management. She received her PhD from the University of Maryland in Political Behavior and Public Policy, and holds a BS in Applied Mathematics from The Georgia Institute of Technology.

Myron D. Winston is a graduate student and Research Assistant at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He is a research assistant with the Race and Trust in Government Study, a joint University of California, University of Illinois, and Northwestern University research project, and is a research assistant in the Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy at UIC. Winston serves as a Teaching Assistant in the Department of Political Science and was an instructor for the Political Science Internships course at the University of Illinois, 2019–2020.

David C. Yamada is a Professor of Law and Director of the New Workplace Institute at Suffolk University Law School in Boston. He is a nationally recognized authority on legal matters relating to internships, having published leading law review articles on the topic and co-filed amicus curiae briefs in support of unpaid interns seeking back pay and protections against discrimination in cases before the US Court of Appeals. He served as a subject matter expert for Pro Publica’s investigative project on unpaid interns and has been interviewed by national media on the legal rights of interns, including the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, and Boston Globe. Yamada is also an internationally recognized authority on the legal and organizational implications of workplace bullying and abuse. His blog, Minding the Workplace, is a popular source of commentary on workers’ rights and employment relations. Yamada’s educational background includes degrees from New York University School of Law (JD, 1985) and Valparaiso University (BA, 1981).