



***PLNU Mission Statement:***

Point Loma Nazarene University exists to provide higher education in a vital Christian community where minds are engaged and challenged, character is modeled and formed, and service becomes an expression of faith. Being of Wesleyan heritage, we aspire to be a learning community where grace is foundational, truth is pursued, and holiness is a way of life.

***IPPS Mission Statement:***

The Institute of Politics and Public Service seeks to build bridges between the campus and our political and social world.

***IPPS Program Learning Goals (Revised May 1, 2014):***

1. Engage students in public affairs by providing them with opportunities to meet with political leaders, activists, academics, and those involved in the policymaking process
2. Inspire students to consider careers in public service and civic leadership
3. Provide professional development training for students
4. Enrich the Department of History and Political Science by offering its students (all four majors) academic and personal growth opportunities outside of the classroom and off-campus
5. Assist students in obtaining and receiving credit for internships
6. Contribute to the public good by inspiring civic engagement, encouraging impactful community-minded inquiry, fostering public service, and facilitating civil community discussions
7. Advance the ideals of civic literacy, community involvement, and public service

***IPPS Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) (Revised May 1, 2014):***

Students will:

1. Demonstrate their deep appreciation for politics and public affairs
2. Reflect upon the possibility of a career in public service or civic leadership
3. Establish a strong network of professional contacts that will prepare them for success after graduation
4. Analyze the moral, personal, and policy sides of public affairs
5. Receive credit for a 3-4 unit public affairs-related internship
6. Understand the importance of sustained civic engagement
7. Identify key access points for their future engagement with the political system

***PLNU Institutional Learning Outcomes (ILOs):***

1. Learning: Informed by our Faith in Christ (to teach...)
  - a. Members of the PLNU community will:
    - i. Display openness to new knowledge and perspectives
    - ii. Think critically, analytically, and creatively
    - iii. Communicate effectively
2. Growing: In a Christ-Centered Faith Community (to shape...)
  - a. Members of the PLNU community will:
    - i. Demonstrate God-inspired development and understanding of others
    - ii. Live gracefully within complex environmental and social contexts
3. Serving: In a Context of Christian Faith (to send...)
  - a. Members of the PLNU community will:
    - i. Engage in actions that reflect Christian discipleship in a context of communal service and collective responsibility
    - ii. Serve both locally and globally

***Current Board of Directors:***

- Lindsey Lupo – Director of IPPS; Professor of Political Science
- Jeff Marston – President and Government Relations Director at Marston & Marston, Inc.; Co-Chair of the Independent Voter Project
- Lynn Hajar – Principal at Lynn Hajar Video Productions and iBiz247
- Mindy Fletcher – Partner at Crux Partners
- Linda Beail – Professor of Political Science at PLNU
- Rosco Williamson – Professor of Political Science at PLNU
- Maria Zack – Professor of Mathematics at PLNU
- Kathy McConnell – Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at PLNU

***IPPS Events and Activities During the 2013-14 Academic Year:***

Coffee Chat with Jeff Marston of Marston & Marston, Inc. – September 2013

Last fall, IPPS hosted a coffee and light breakfast for twenty (20) students in the President's Dining Room on PLNU's campus. Our guest was Jeff Marston of the public relations firm Marston & Marston, Inc. Jeff spoke to our students about his involvement with the Independent Voter Network, a "non-profit, non-partisan (501(c)4) organization dedicated to better informing voters about important public policy issues and to encouraging non-partisan voters to participate in the electoral process." Four years ago, Jeff and his co-chairs at IVN authored California's proposition 14, the non-partisan, top-two open primary law. This initiative was passed by voters and for the last few election cycles, California's primary election system has been radically changed. At our coffee, our students took part in a very engaging and lively conversation with Jeff, discussing the perils of heightened partisanship, the role of political parties, voter disengagement, and political participation. Students later commented to me about how much they enjoyed the morning and the conversation.

### CIVICTalk – September 2013-present

This year I joined an informal gathering of community groups, organizations, public officials, and university representatives who are “engaged in promoting civil civic dialogue in the San Diego region.” The goal of CIVICTalk is to establish networking and communication opportunities for these organizations, in order to more effectively promote civil dialogue events in the local community. As a member of the group, I attend monthly meetings at The San Diego Foundation’s Center for Civic Engagement in Liberty Station. I have also become an active member of a CIVICTalk sub-group (see below for more).

### *Booker’s Place: A Mississippi Story* – October 2013

In conjunction with PLNU’s Center for Justice and Reconciliation, IPPS sponsored the viewing of the documentary *Booker’s Place: A Mississippi Story*. The producers of the film write: “Booker Wright was an African-American restaurant owner who also served double-duty as a waiter in a “whites-only” restaurant in Mississippi in the 1960s. He became an unlikely activist for the Civil Rights movement when he appeared on a network TV documentary reporting on the changing times in his small town. Exploding the myth of who he was and his experience serving the white community, Booker’s appearance set off a chain of events that eventually led to his untimely murder.” The film viewing was followed by a discussion with Yvette Johnson, Booker’s granddaughter and a co-producer on the film. Sixty (60) students attended the film viewing and asked Yvette many poignant, thought-provoking questions



about current day race relations in America, the legacy of past racial injustices, and her experience as a Christian woman grappling with her grandfather’s murder. In addition to the film viewing and discussion, IPPS hosted Yvette and four students at a dinner in Point Loma. The students were Alison Kendrix (president of PLNU’s Black Student Union), Austin Flanagan (political science major who plans to be a civil rights attorney), Christina Marcial, and Adrian Calderon (both Immigration Interns with the Center for Justice and Reconciliation).

### Insider Insights Seminar – November 2013

In conjunction with USD’s Public Service Leadership Initiative, IPPS brought students to the University Club in downtown San Diego to hear from two high-profile political staffers: Job Nelson (chief of staff to City Councilwoman Lorie Zapf) and Jamie Fox (chief of staff to City Councilman Todd Gloria). The topic of the event was “Success Strategies for Political Staffers.” Fifteen (15) PLNU students attended this event and received some sage advice, including “look down the road at your narrative” and “remember why you are doing [public service] – helping others.”

### “Congressman on Campus” Discussion with Representative Scott Peters – January 2014

For this event, IPPS partnered with PLNU’s Office of Public Affairs to host Congressman Scott Peters (52<sup>nd</sup> District), PLNU’s representative in the U.S. Congress. I moderated the conversation and asked some initial questions of the Congressman. Approximately thirty (30) people attended, including President Bob Brower, Provost Kerry Fulcher, leaders of both College Democrats and Campus Republicans, and many members of our staff, faculty, and student community.



#### Kettering Foundation Cohort Initial “Centers for Public Life” Training in Dayton, OH – February 2014

As part of my involvement with CIVICtalk (see above), I have joined a consortium of regional groups and universities selected by the Kettering Foundation in Dayton, OH to join a “New Centers for Public Life” learning exchange. Our 18 month training – fully funded by Kettering – will have us developing a regional hub model that seeks to strengthen civic engagement in the San Diego region. Our goal is to advance civil civic dialogue with deliberative democratic methods, empowering residents of San Diego to openly discuss and address critical issues and create stronger communities. These



democracy hubs will be housed on the campuses of our San Diego universities and will utilize students as facilitators of the democratic issues forums. In my capacity as director of IPPS, I will be making three trips with my cohort to Dayton, OH and one trip to Charleston, WV over the next year to learn about best practices for building these regional centers. I have already traveled to Dayton once this year (February 2014) for a three-day training with my cohort. My cohort includes: BH Kim (Executive Director of the Center for Civic Engagement at the San Diego Foundation), Leroy Brady (Professor of Business, San Diego City College), Martha Cox (League of Women Voters), Kimber Quinney (Professor of History, Cal State San Marcos), Karen Shelby (Professor of Political Science, USD), Tiveeda Stovall (Community Service Program Coordinator at UCSD), Mary Thompson (League of Women Voters), Jessica Barlow (Professor of Speech Language and Director of the Sage Project at SDSU), and Nancy Fredericks (Professor of Business, San Diego City College).

#### Insiders Insight Seminar – March 2014

IPPS hosted an afternoon with three political insiders: Mindy Fletcher (partner with Crux Partners, a public affairs firm), Phi Rath (principal with Rath Miller, a public affairs firm), and Sterling McHale (policy advisor to County Supervisor Ron Roberts). Fourteen (14) PLNU students attended this event at the University Club in downtown San Diego and had the opportunity to speak with our three panelists, as well as to network with the political staffers who attended the event.



#### An Evening with the Personal Side of Public Service: a Dinner Discussion – April 2014

In conjunction with USD's Public Service Leadership Initiative, IPPS brought eighteen (18) PLNU students to a dinner at the University Club in downtown San Diego. Our guest speakers were Donna Lucas (principal with Lucas Public Affairs in Sacramento and former deputy chief of staff to Governor Schwarzenegger, CA press secretary for President George H.W. Bush, and deputy press secretary for Governor Deukmejian), Ben Haddad (principal with California Strategies and former deputy chief of staff for Governor Wilson and chief of staff for San Diego Mayor Susan Golding), and Katelyn Hailey (policy advisor to CA Senator Marty Block). Donna spoke about "Sacramento Today," Ben spoke about "Seizing Opportunities, Serving Well" and Katelyn spoke about "The Joys and Satisfactions of being a Political Staffer." One student who attended the dinner, Christina Marcial, had a long and engaging conversation with Donna Lucas and promised to look her up if she was ever in Sacramento. A few weeks later, Christina made an unexpected and last minute trip to Sacramento and indeed met with Donna for coffee. During the meeting, Donna offered Christina a coveted summer internship position in her Sacramento public affairs firm.

#### ***IPPS Events Planned for the 2014-15 Academic Year:***

##### October 2014 – Insider Insights Seminar

IPPS will host 3-4 political insiders to speak to students about engaging with the political world, both professionally and personally.

##### November 2014 – Internship Seminar

This is IPPS's annual internship seminar, where I tell students the ins-and-outs of interning, job searching, and prepping for post-PLNU life. I will also invite a recent PLNU graduate to speak to them about career planning and the importance of internships.

##### January 2015 – "Coffee and Politics" Speaker Series Reception

IPPS will be inviting a local public servant (possibly Jerry Sanders) from San Diego to speak to a small group of students during an on-campus reception.

##### February 2015 – Kettering Foundation Cohort Issues Forum

Next spring, my cohort will be hosting our first issues forum in the San Diego region. The Kettering Foundation has assigned us the issue of "substance abuse." In this first forum, we will be gathering individuals from the County of San Diego to discuss this problem and approaches that address this problem. We will discuss tensions that stem from our differing values and priorities, and we will seek paths that bring us to a place of better understanding of the other side of the debate. This deliberative forum will utilize PLNU students and students from other San Diego universities as facilitators of the discussion.

##### February 2015 – Kettering Foundation Cohort in Dayton, OH

This will be my cohort's third and final trip to the Kettering Foundation in Dayton. Our training as a "Center for Public Life" will conclude with a two day workshop reflecting upon our issues forum and exploring the challenges and opportunities we'll face in our future work.

### ***External Relations:***

Over the last few years, I have worked hard to grow the IPPS's roots in San Diego, linking both PLNU and IPPS to the San Diego public affairs community. As part of this effort, I engaged in the following during 2013-14:

- Served on The San Diego Foundation's public policy committee
- Joined the group CIVICtalk, led by the Center for Civic Engagement at The San Diego Foundation and Restoring Respect, a community initiative promoting greater civility in San Diego dialogue.
- Attended the annual dinner for the San Diego Economic Development Corporation
- Attended the launch event for Circulate San Diego
- Attended the launch event for stoppartisanship.org
- Attended the Restoring Respect annual conference at USD
- Met regularly with community leaders and public affairs officials – during my sabbatical (spring 2014), I arranged over two dozen in-person meetings with individuals active in the world of San Diego public affairs.
- Attended a number of campaign and election-related events

### ***Student Testimonials about IPPS:***

My experience with the Institute of Politics and Public Service this past year was wonderful! The IPPS events were of great professional and academic guidance. As a first-generation college student, the IPPS events were great opportunities to connect with professionals in the field of politics and learn about their experience. Shortly following an event, I was able to reconnect with one of the panelists in Sacramento to learn more in depth about public affairs – an opportunity that was made possible by attending the IPPS event. As a recent graduate, the knowledge I gained from attending the IPPS events has helped me to best prepare myself for post-graduate opportunities. I am grateful for the impact the Institute of Politics and Public Service has had and will continue to have on our campus! (Christina Marcial, political science, class of 2014)

The experience I gained from the Institute of Politics and Public Service at PLNU was a critical piece in expanding and cultivating my knowledge of what public affairs does and looks like. It gave me insider, first-hand testimonials from professionals in the field and introduced me to aspects of the field I never knew about. I appreciated very much every talk and meeting as it allowed me to ask questions and grow not only as a student, but as a future professional. The Institute of Politics and Public Service is a very much needed component to the Political Science Department at Point Loma Nazarene University (Lydia Kravchuk, political science, class of 2014).

The Insider Insights Seminar gave me tremendous insight into what it truly means to find joy and fulfillment in public service and local politics as a whole. This event has thus changed my beliefs of local politics and created newfound interest in public service as something I want to explore and focus on as a career. With this event in particular, but also the other events offered by IPPS, I am constantly having the opportunity to interact with members of the community that challenge my thinking, motivation, and future decisions (Kirby Challman, political science, class of 2016).

The events hosted by IPPS are pivotal in the advancement of academic life. They provide a crucial perspective of professionals in the field. Specifically, Yvette Johnson showcased a brilliant viewpoint into the life of African Americans in the South. Her insight allowed students to open their minds to the world outside the walls in which

we live. It is events like this that further the mission and values of Point Loma and create unforgettable, enhancing moments (Austin Flanagan, political science, class of 2016).

The IPPS events have broadened my horizons and brought my attention to possible career choices that would have gone otherwise unnoticed. The events bring life into the department and allow the students to not only interact, but to also learn from some of the brightest minds in our area of study. Needless to say, the Institute of Politics and Public Service is an integral part of my time as an undergraduate student and I look forward to future events (Jacci O'Keefe, political science, class of 2016).

The lunch with Jeff Marston was very interesting, as I had not been exposed to the controversy of open vs. closed primary elections, and this was started me thinking about what kind of systems work best to ensure that the most qualified and honest candidates get elected. Marston was candid with us, and I appreciated hearing from someone with so much experience in state politics. The Booker's Place showing was very moving, and having Yvette Johnson, Booker Wright's granddaughter and co-producer of the film, was an incredible experience. She was so thoughtful in her answers and approach to the very difficult topic of racism in the south. Having someone talk to us, who held this story so close to her heart, was truly moving. Finally, "an Evening with the Personal Side of Public Service" was a really great night of networking and hearing from people who have devoted their lives to public service. It was great to hear from people just starting off, as a staffer, and from those who have climbed the latter and serve as lobbyists and advisers and congressmen/women. It was really helpful to hear their stories and see how each got where they are today by unique and interesting paths. It was reassuring to see that there's no one path towards professional success, and that it's possible to lead a good life by choosing to go into public service. I know by conversations with students after the event that they felt likewise, as well as excited about the prospect of pursuing similar careers (Megan Christensen, international studies, class of 2015).