



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:

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):

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

2015-16 Institute of Politics and Public Service Board of Directors:

- Dr. Lindsey Lupo – Director of IPPS; Professor of Political Science
- Jeff Marston – Director of Traditional Communications at IVC Public Affairs; Co-Chair of the Independent Voter Project
- Lynn Hajar – President and CEO at iBiz247
- Mindy Fletcher – Partner at Crux Partners
- Dr. Linda Beail – Professor of Political Science at PLNU
- Dr. Rosco Williamson – Professor of Political Science at PLNU
- Dr. Maria Zack – Professor of Mathematics at PLNU
- Dr. Jim Daichendt – Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities at PLNU

IPPS Events and Activities During the 2015-16 Academic Year:

Insider Insights Seminar – November 2015

At this on-campus seminar held in the Colt Forum, three community “insiders” – Elyse Lowe (Deputy Director of Developmental Services with the City of San Diego), Sarah Lubeck (Communications Manager with the San Diego Economic Development Corporation), and Michael de la Rosa (Policy Advisor to County Supervisor Greg Cox) – spoke to a group of fifteen students about public affairs career planning, professional development, networking, and graduate school.

Kettering Foundation Visit – November 2015

Last fall, I was invited to attend a two day research exchange at the Kettering Foundation in Dayton, Ohio. This research exchange (titled “College Students Talk Politics”) brought a group of academics together to discuss a book project on student political engagement. The book will

include my chapter on political participation exercises as a means of teaching civic skills and will be published by the end of the year.

Lunch Seminar with Matt Leighninger – February 2016

Matt Leighninger, director of the Yankelovich Center for Public Judgment and head of Public Agenda’s public engagement and democratic governance sector, came to PLNU for a lunch seminar in Colt Forum. He spoke to a group of students about civic engagement, deliberative democracy, and civic affairs career opportunities.

Life After Loma: Recent Graduates Panel – April 2016

This on-campus panel consisted of four recent graduates from the Department of History and Political Science: Daniel Nadal (2011), Rachel Christensen (2012), Lydia Kravchuk (2014), and Bree Burris (2015). All four of these students are currently working in San Diego in the field of law or public affairs. Fourteen students attended the panel and listened to advice on entering the job market, making the most of an internship, and the importance of networking.

San Diego Deliberation Network

This year, I continued my involvement with the San Diego Deliberation Network, a collaborative of nine individuals (representing all major universities in the area, as well as the League of Women Voters) dedicated to fostering civil civic dialogue in San Diego. We meet monthly to discuss our mission, plan deliberative forums, and organize our finances (we recently decided to become a 501c3 organization). During the 2015-16 academic year, we held three health care forums in three different locations: the San Diego Central Library, San Diego Community College, and the Oceanside Public Library. Over the next year, we will continue training students to take part in these forums as facilitators (thus far, students from PLNU, USD, and CSUSM have been trained).

Student Internships (Summer 2015, Fall 2015 and Spring 2016):

Office of Councilman Todd Gloria	Generate Hope
San Diego Unified School District	Alliance San Diego
Downtown San Diego Partnership	Hostelling International USA
All People’s Church	The AjA Project
Medical Research Charities	FitPay Inc.
Frantz Law Group	Action International
Precious Kids Center	U.S. Navy
Hunger Advocacy Network	Love Does
International Affairs Board	International Justice Mission

Some of the IPPS Events Planned for the 2016-17 Academic Year:

September 2016 – “Bring it to the Table” Documentary Screening

This fall, IPPS will be screening the documentary “Bring it to the Table,” a documentary and engagement campaign “aimed at bridging political divides and elevating the national conversation about issues that matter to us all.” The documentary is a platform for stoking healthy political conversations and is “for those who want to listen to what their fellow students, neighbors, friends, family members, and even total strangers, really think.”

November 2016 – Internship Seminar

This is IPPS’s annual internship seminar, where I discuss with 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 2017 – “Coffee and Politics” Speaker Series Reception

Each year, IPPS invites a local community leader to speak to students about politics and current affairs. Tentatively, this year’s invited guest will be the political writer, Ruben Navarrette, who is, according to Media Matters, the most widely read Latino columnist in the country, and the 16th most popular columnist in America.

Ongoing – LEAD San Diego (IMPACT program)

I have been selected to participate in LEAD San Diego’s IMPACT program, “a nine-month series of full-day issues-focused seminars, plus optional sessions, designed to give participants a greater understanding of the critical issues and key players in our region, motivating them to use their skills to become engaged.” This program will help connect me with the broader San Diego community, granting me access to future IPPS speakers and internship providers.

External Relations:

Over the last few years, I have worked hard to grow IPPS’s roots in San Diego, linking both PLNU and IPPS to the San Diego public affairs community. As part of this effort, I was involved in the following ways during the 2015-16 academic year:

- Served on The San Diego Foundation’s public policy committee
- Participated in the San Diego Deliberation Network (SDDN)
- Lectured about American democracy and representation at a Leadership North County event
- Served as an invited co-panelist with Congressman Scott Peters at a Leadership North County breakfast

Student Testimonials about IPPS:



*Students from the Department of History and Political Science
at an IPPS event in downtown San Diego*

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. It is events like these 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).