

DARI SYLVESTER TRAN
Department of Political Science
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

University of the Pacific. Department of Political Science.

Professor, 2019-present.

Associate Professor, 2011-2019. Assistant Professor, 2005-2011.

Faculty Director, College Corps Fellowship, 2022-present.

Program Manager, California Civic Action/Healthy Futures Fellows, 2020-22.

Interim Executive Director, Jacoby Center for Public Service and Civic Leadership, 2013-2015.

Director of Research, Jacoby Center for Public Service and Civic Leadership, 2011-2013.

Senior Research Fellow, Jacoby Center for Public Service and Civic Leadership 2005-2011.

Courses Taught

University of the Pacific. Department of Political Science.

Health Policy

CA Civic Action Fellows Seminar

Pacific Seminar 3 (Senior General Education Course)

Senior Capstone

Leadership: Theory and Practice (co-taught course)

Urban Government

Introduction to American Politics

Mentor I (Gateway General Education Course)

Quantitative Methods

Government in Action: Public Policy

Sacramento Experience Internship Seminar

Stony Brook University, Stony Brook, NY. Department of Political Science.

Instructor, American Political Ideology and Public Opinion, Summer 2003; Fall 2003.

Instructor, Urban Politics, Spring 2004; Summer 2004.

Instructor, Introduction to American Politics, Summer 2004; Spring 2005.

Instructor, Constitutional Law, Fall 2004.

EDUCATION

Stony Brook University. Ph.D., Political Science (2006); M.A., Political Science (2002).

Trinity College, Hartford, CT. B.A., Political Science (1998).

Graduated with Honors in Political Science and Highest Honors in General Scholarship.

Inducted into Phi Beta Kappa (1997).

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Voting and Elections Administration; Public Policy and Civic Obligation Local and State politics; Community Government and Governance.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Publications Post-Tenure

Tran, Dari Sylvester, ed. *Pandemic at the Polls: How the Politics of COVID-19 Played into American Elections.* 2023. Lexington Books.

- Michelson, Melissa R. and **Dari Sylvester Tran**. "Poll Worker Perceptions of Online Training." *Journal of Election Administration, Research, & Practice*. Vol, 2, Issue 1 (2023): 58-71.
- DeMora, Stephanie L., Melissa R. Michelson, and **Dari S. Tran**. "Don't Dismiss Digital Immigrants: Poll Workers and New Election Technologies." *Election Law Journal*. Vol. 21, no. 3 (2022): 249-258.
- Tran, Dari Sylvester**. *Unrigging American Elections: Reform Past and Prologue*. 2019. New York: Palgrave MacMillan.
- Bergman, Elizabeth, **Dari Sylvester-Tran**, and Philip Yates. "Voter Identification." In Pippa Norris, Sarah Cameron and Thomas Wynter (editors), *Challenges of U.S. Electoral Integrity*. New York: Oxford University Press (2018).
- Bergman, Elizabeth and **Dari Sylvester-Tran**. "Logistical Barriers to Voting." In Bridgett A. King and Kathleen Hale (editors), *Why Don't Americans Vote? Causes and Consequences*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO (2016).
- Smith, Keith and **Dari Sylvester-Tran**. "It's Not Convenient: Early and Weekend Voting." In Bridgett A. King and Kathleen Hale (editors), *Why Don't Americans Vote? Causes and Consequences*. Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO (2016).
- Weffer, Simón E., **Sylvester, Dari**, Mullooly, James, Parnell, Alex Leigh, Maravilla, Rafael, and Lau, Nicholas. "The Impacts of Foreclosure on Collective Efficacy and Civic Engagement: Findings from Two Central California Communities." Special Issue on "Foreclosure Crisis in the United States." *Social Justice*. Vol. 40, No. 3. (2014): pp. 48-64.
- Smith, Keith W. and **Dari E. Sylvester**. "Is It the Message or the Person? Lessons from a Field Experiment About Who Converts to Permanent Vote by Mail" *Election Law Journal*. Vol. 12, No.3 (September 2013): 243-260.
- Weffer, Simon. Mullooly, James, **Sylvester, Dari E.**, Delugan, Robin M., and Hernandez, Marcia. "Partnerships Across Campuses and Throughout Communities: Community Engaged Research in California's Central San Joaquin County" in Joe Sirgy, Rhonda Phillips, and Don Rahtz (editors), *Community Quality-of-Life Indicators: Best cases VI*. Dordrecht: Springer. (June, 2013).
- Sylvester, Dari E. "From Policy to Political Efficacy and Engagement: Using Government in Action to Promote Understanding of Public Policy." In Alison Rios Millett McCartney, Elizabeth A. Bennion, and Dick Simpson (editors), *From Service-Learning to Civic and Political Engagement*. Washington, DC: American Political Science Association. (2013).
- Sylvester, Dari E.** and Nathan W. Monroe. "Cutting Costs: An Assessment of Vote By Mail." In Robert Benedetti (editor), *More Votes that Count: A Case Study in Voter Mobilization*. Berkeley, CA: Institute of Governmental Studies. (2012).
- DeLugan, Robin Maria, Marcia D. Hernandez, **Dari E. Sylvester**, and Simon E. Weffer. "The Dynamics of Social Indicator Research for California's Central Valley in Transition." *Social Indicators Research*: Vol. 100, Issue 2 (2011), p 259.
- Monroe, Nathan W. and **Dari E. Sylvester**. "Who Converts to Vote-By-Mail? Evidence From a Field Experiment." *Election Law Journal*. Vol. 10, No. 1 (March 2011): pp. 15-35.

Sylvester, Dari E. "Student Objection to Service-Learning: A Teachable Moment About Political and Community Engagement." in Christine Cress and David Donohue (editors), *Democratic Dilemmas*. Washington, D.C.: Stylus Publishing. (2011).

Publications Included in Dossier for Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor

Heaney, Michael T., Matthew Newman and **Dari E. Sylvester**. "Campaigning on the Internet." in Stephen C. Craig (editor), *The Electoral Challenge: Theory Meets Practice, Second Edition*. Washington, DC: CQ Press. (2010).

McGlynn, Adam and **Dari E. Sylvester**. "Assessing the Effects of Municipal Terms Limits on Fiscal Policy in U.S. Cities." *State and Local Government Review*. Vol. 42, No. 2 (August 2010): pp. 118-132.

Sylvester, Dari E. "Service-Learning as a Vehicle for Promoting Student Political Efficacy" Special Issue on "Service-Learning for Political Participation." *Journal for Civic Commitment*. 14th Issue (2010).

Sylvester, Dari E. and Adam J. McGlynn. "The Digital Divide, Political Participation and Place." *Social Science Computer Review*. Vol. 28, No. 1 (February 2010): pp. 64-74.

Non Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles and Reports

Avalos, Antonio, Robin DeLugan, Marcia Hernandez, James Mullooly, **Dari E. Sylvester**, and Simón E. Weffer. *The Partnership for Assessment of Communities: Disparities, Inequality, and Civic Engagement in the San Joaquin Valley*. Report submitted to the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley.

Sylvester, Dari E. 2008. "Fostering Student Leadership in Tackling Community-Based Problems (Brief Report)." *Journal of Cognitive Affective Learning*. Spring, 2008.

Sylvester, Dari E. 2008. "Review of *W Stands for Women: How the George W. Bush Presidency Shaped a New Politics of Gender*," Michael L. Ferguson and Lori Jo Marso, eds. *Politics and Gender*. Spring 2008.

Other Publications

Sylvester, Dari E. 2004. Republican Party Platforms, Republican National Committee, Machine Politics, Name Recognition, Nonpartisan Election, Constitution, 26th Amendment, Grand Old Party. Entries in *The Encyclopedia of American Parties and Elections*. Larry J. Sabato and Howard R. Ernst, eds. Facts on File, 2004.

AWARDS AND GRANTS PERTAINING TO SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarly/Artistic Activity Grant. Fall, 2022. \$1500 awarded for indexing assistance for *Pandemic at the Polls*.

College Research Fund. Fall 2018. \$1360 for copyediting assistance for *Unrigging American Elections*.

Pacific Fund Distinctiveness Grant (with Keith Smith). Summer 2012. \$4000 for data collection costs in Vote-By-Mail research.

University of the Pacific Faculty Seed Grant (with Keith Smith). Spring 2012. \$6000 for data collection costs in Vote-By-Mail research.

Pew Foundation Make Voting Work Grant. November, 2008-August 2009. \$43000 to conduct research on a voter education campaign aimed at increasing voter turnout and reducing voter error conducted in San Joaquin County, California.

San Joaquin County Registrar of Voters in Collaboration with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA) Grant. January, 2008-August, 2009. \$250,000 to conduct a three-election Voter Education Campaign across the county.

Pacific Fund Distinctiveness Grant (with Marcia Hernandez). Summer 2008. \$4014 for data collection costs in Central Valley research.

California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley Grant to Conduct Assessment of Quality of Life Outcomes from the Governor's Strategic Action Proposal. January, 2007-2008. \$13,000 grant to conduct a longitudinal study in collaboration with researchers from three university campuses.

Scholarly/Artistic Activity Grant. Spring, 2007. \$3200 awarded to faculty to assist with costs incurred in hiring student researchers to assist in data collection.

AWARDS AND GRANTS PERTAINING TO TEACHING & MENTORING

Long Faculty Fellowship Stipend. 2024. Awarded for excellence in General Education program instruction.

Excellence in Undergraduate Research Mentoring Award. 2022. Recognizes a faculty member for excellence in the mentoring of undergraduate researchers.

Hoefler Prize for Leadership in Experiential Learning. 2019. Recognizes faculty members who have achieved a record of outstanding contributions to an undergraduate academic program through the development and supervision of experiential learning opportunities.

Pacific Alumni Association's Faculty Mentor Award. 2017. The award honors "outstanding faculty who have mentored students and alumni through their personal and professional relationships."

Faculty Member Woman of Distinction Award. 2015. University of the Pacific's Student Life Division award recognizes "contributions to the advancement of women and gender equity, and/or who have demonstrated outstanding professional or public leadership."

Phi Beta Kappa Northern California Association's Excellence in Teaching Award. 2014. Phi Beta Kappa member-nominated award recognizes outstanding teaching.

Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Peace and Justice Faculty Award. 2013. Established by the University of the Pacific to honor members of the Pacific and San Joaquin communities who have demonstrated outstanding contributions to social justice and equality.

Revolutionary Faculty Award. 2012. Awarded by the Council of University Social Entrepreneurs.

Adaljiza Sosa-Riddell Award for Exemplary Mentoring of Latino/a Students in Political Science. 2011. Student-nominated award presented by the American Political Science Association's Committee on the Status of Latinos and Latinas in the Profession.

Podesto Award for Excellence in Student Life, Mentoring, and Counseling. 2009-2010. Student-nominated award given to an educator who demonstrates outstanding mentoring in the student educational experience.

Writing in the Disciplines Grant 2008. \$3000 for developing an upper-level writing intensive course and training student writing mentors.

Committee for Academic Planning and Development Hoefler Prize for Leadership in Experiential Learning.

Spring, 2008-2009. \$2000 prize is to encourage, recognize and reward faculty members who have achieved a record of outstanding contributions through the development of innovative experiential learning tools.

California Campus Compact-Carnegie Foundation Faculty Fellows: Service Learning for Political Engagement Program. July 2007-July 2009. \$6,000 fellowship over two years to develop and implement a service-learning course with the goal of increasing students' understanding, skills, and motivation for political participation.

Thomas J. Long Foundation Core Fellowship. Spring, 2007. \$5,000 fellowship for innovative teaching and excellence in general education instruction.

Experiential Learning Oversight Committee Mini-Grant. Spring, 2007. \$1,000 grant for the development of an innovative experiential learning course.

Scholarship to participate in the University of the Pacific's Center for Teaching Excellence Peer to Peer Pairing Initiative, Spring 2006, Spring 2007. Awarded to selected junior faculty for the purpose of enhancing teaching techniques in the classroom.

Online course facilitator in Georgetown's "Crossroads Online Institute," Spring 2007. Selected by the Crossroads Online Institute to lead five faculty members in assessing student learning outcomes in their courses.

Scholarship to participate in Georgetown's "Crossroads Online Institute," Spring 2006. Awarded to selected faculty members for the purpose of exploring new pedagogies and learner-based assessment technique in an eight-week online course.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Political Science Association

Midwest Political Science Association

Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education (POD)

CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATIONS

"Pandemic at the Polls: COVID-19 Politics & the Administration of the 2020 Elections." Moderated a roundtable discussion at the April 2024 Midwest Political Science Association Conference, Chicago, IL.

"Digital Immigrants and Election Technology: Revisiting Old Assumptions." Co-Presented (with Melissa Michelson) at the 2023 Meeting of the Future of California Elections Conference, Sacramento, CA. October 16, 2023.

"Buffeted Not Bulldozed: Lessons Learned from the Pandemic Elections of 2020." Co-Presented (with Martha Kropf) at the June 2023 Election Science, Reform, and Administration Conference, Athens, GA.

"Wither American Election Administration: The Impact of COVID-19 and Future Directions." Presented at the 2023 Western Political Science Association Conference, San Francisco, CA.

"Identifying, Cultivating, and Vetting Community Organization Placements" Co-Presented (with Marylou Bagus-Hasen) at the 2023 Continuums of Service Conference, Honolulu, HI.

"Does Service Learning Increase Student Empathy?" Co-Presented (with Daneli Santillan) at the 2022 American Political Science Association Conference. Montreal, Canada.

- “Election Modernization and Perceptions of Electoral Integrity.” Co-Presented (with Melissa Michelson) at the 2022 Meeting of the Electoral Integrity Project’s Pre-APSA workshop. Montreal, Canada, September 14, 2022.
- “Improving Confidence, Competence, and Convenience: Online Poll Worker Training Overhaul.” Presented at the 2022 Election Science, Reform, and Administration Conference, Charlotte, N.C. Paper co-authored with Melissa Michelson.
- “Don’t Dismiss Digital Immigrants: Poll Workers and New Election Technologies.” Poster Co-Presented (with Stephanie DeMora and Melissa Michelson) at the 2021 Virtual Election Science, Reform, and Administration Conference hosted by the MIT Election Data + Science Lab.
- “Casting More Ballots That Count.” Presented at the 2019 Western Political Science Association Conference, San Diego, CA. Paper co-authored with Keith Smith.
- “What’s real: separating fact from fiction in identifying and resolving the biggest election problems of 2016.” Presented at the 2017 Electoral Integrity Project’s Pre-APSA workshop. San Francisco, CA. August 30, 2017 (paper co-authored with Elizabeth Bergman).
- Future of CA Elections Conference, CACEO, L.A. March 3, 2014.
- WASC Retreat on Core Competencies: Critical Thinking and Information Literacy. Garden Grove, CA. September, 2013.
- “Invisible Numbers: TEDx San Joaquin.” Invited talk given at University of the Pacific, Faye Spanos Hall October 10, 2012.
- “Democratic Dilemmas on Teaching Service-Learning: Curricular Strategies for Success.” A Workshop Co-presented at the Campus Compact 2011 Continuums of Service Conference, San Diego, CA.
- “The Choice to Vote by Mail: A Field Experiment.” Co-Presented (with Keith Smith) at the 2011 Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.
- “Assessing the Effects of Municipal Term Limits on Fiscal Policy in U.S. Cities.” Co-Presented (with Adam McGlynn) at the 2010 Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.
- “Vote by Mail: Results from a Field Experiment.” Presented at the 2009 Pew Center on the States Non-Precinct Place Voting Conference, Portland, OR.
- “Revealing the Learning: Quantitative and Qualitative Inquiry into Service Learning to Promote Political Engagement.” Co-presented at the Washington Campus Compact 2009 Continuums of Service Conference, Seattle, WA.
- “Cutting Costs: An Assessment of Vote By Mail.” Co-Presented (with Nathan Monroe) at the 2009 Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.
- “Service Learning for Political Participation: A Political Scientist’s Take on Experiential Learning.” Presented at the 2008 Hawaii International Conference on Social Sciences, Honolulu, HI.
- “Making the Political Explicit: Revisioning Service-Learning to Promote Political Engagement.” Co-presented at the Washington Campus Compact 2008 Continuums of Service Conference, Portland, OR.
- “Fostering Student Leadership in Tackling Community-Based Problems.” Presented at the 2008 Meeting of the

American Political Science Association Teaching and Learning Conference, Palo Alto, CA.

“Volunteering Asians and Latinos: Group patterns of volunteerism.” Presented at the 2007 Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

“Alternative Models of Mentoring.” Presented with Robert Cox at the October 2006 Meeting of the POD Association, Portland, OR.

“Crisis and Voluntarism.” Presented at the March 2006 Meeting of the Western Political Science Association, Albuquerque, NM.

Discussant, Teaching and Learning Conference, Washington, D.C., February, 2005 (Civic Education and Engagement).

“A Multilevel Approach to the Decision to Volunteer.” Presented at the January 2005 Meeting of the Southern Political Science Association, New Orleans, LA.

“Unmuddying the Conceptual Waters: What Predicts Social Capital.” Presented at the 2004 Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

“Networks and Social Capital Building as Preemptive Strike: The Impending Crisis of Volunteer Firefighter Recruitment and Retention.” Presented at the 2003 Meeting of the International Conference on Civic Education Research, New Orleans, LA.

“Shades of Terrorism: An Experimental Exploration into the Implications of Ethnic/Racial Group Affect.” Presented at the 2002 Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL.

SELECT PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Peer Review Groups/Grant Study

First 5 San Joaquin County Grant Review Board. 2010.

Citi Foundation and Great Valley Center Grant Review Board. 2008

Advisory

Delta First Five Community Advisory Council, Chair. 2020-21.

Advisor to San Joaquin County Court Grand Jury pertaining to Vote-by-Mail, Fall 2009.

Media

Interview with Fox News Affiliate KTVU Ch. 2 Oakland on Trump’s refusal to concede the election. 11/2020.

Interview with *The Record Searchlight* on President Trump’s refusal to concede the election, 11/2020.

Interview with *AARP Magazine* on the Presidential Election. Fall, 2020.

Interview with *Governing Magazine* on the Impact of Foreclosure, Summer 2014.

Appeared on San Joaquin Television Station 26 as a questioner panelist for local election debates 10/11/06.

Appeared on News Channel 10 as expert analyst on Stockton’s mayoral scandal 1/18/06.

Journal Service

Editorial Board Member, *Election Law Journal*. 2013-current.

Journal Reviewer: *American Journal of Political Science*, *American Politics Research*, *American Review of Politics*, *Journal of Political Science Education*, *New Media and Society*, *Political Behavior*, *Political Psychology*, *Politics and Gender*, *Social Science Quarterly*.

University of the Pacific Service

Faculty Yield Representative, Fall 2021.

Faculty Leave Proposal External Member for Alison Alkon, 2021.
Faculty Leave Review Committee Chair for Keith Smith, 2020.
Chapter Vice President, Phi Beta Kappa. 2019-present.
Faculty Compensation Committee. 2018-2021.
Chair, Faculty Compensation Committee. 2018-2019.
Review Committee for Alison Alkon's promotion to Full Professor, Department of Sociology. 2019.
Faculty Compensation Committee Chair 2018-present.
Faculty Leave Review Committee Chair for Brian Klunk, 2018.
Pacific Tiger Day, April, 2018.
Faculty Advisor to Pi Sigma Alpha (Political Science Honors Fraternity) 2006-present.
Lead, Sacramento Semester Planning Committee, convened by College of the Pacific Dean Rena Fraden. 2014-15.
Focusing on our Future Assessment and Program Review. 2013-14.
Social Entrepreneurship Minor Planning Committee, convened by College of the Pacific Dean Rena Fraden. 2013-14.
Moderator, Resourceful Women's Panel hosted by the Council of University Social Entrepreneurs (CUSE). October, 2013.
Interim Executive Director, Harold S. Jacoby Center. May 2013-2015.
WASC Planning Group for Critical Thinking Core Competency. Garden Grove, CA. Fall, 2013.
College of the Pacific Faculty Council. 2012-2015.
Dept. Chair-commissioned Course Assessment Project for Department Assessment Plan. Conducted Assessment Project for POLS 119, SP 12.
Liberal Learning Working Group Lead for Pacific's 2011 Strategic Planning.
Faculty Leave Review Committee Chair for Michael Hatch, 2011.
Third-Year Review Committee for Monika Meler, Visual Arts Department. 2011.
Chapter Historian, Phi Beta Kappa. 2009-2011.
Presentation, "Service-Learning Best Practices." Lecture presented at New Faculty Orientation, August 2009.
Faculty Participant, University of the Pacific's Diversity Retreat for Course Development, May 2009.
Committee for Academic Planning and Development (CAP-D), 2008-2011.
Faculty Search Committees: Voting Behavior, 2005-2006; 2006-2007; Political Theory, 2005-2006. Legislative Behavior, 2006-2007.
Presentation, "Attitudes and Opportunities as Antecedents of Volunteerism: A Multilevel Approach." Research presented at the monthly Political Science Public Policy Colloquium, September, 2006.
Co-Chaired University Community Service Committee, 2006-2007.
Presentation, "Experiential Learning in the Social Sciences at Pacific." Prospective Student Preview Day at Pacific, November, 2006.
Faculty Advisor to Alpha Phi Omega (International Service Fraternity) 2005-2008.