

# Letters from the Editors

As the editor-in-chief of this year's publication, I am honored to have had the privilege of overseeing the Eighth Edition of this journal. Embodying Cal Poly Pomona's "Learn-by-Doing" motto, the Undergraduate Journal of Political Science is an entirely student-run endeavor. From the authors of the original research published, to the editorial board, all aspects of the journal are undertaken, managed, and overseen wholly by the undergraduate student body of the Political Science Department. Without the tireless efforts of these actors, working behind the scenes, the formidable academic and intellectual standard of this publication would not have been possible.

I would like to first acknowledge the exceptional work done by our Junior Editor, Amary, and wish her the best of luck as she enters her final year as Cal Poly Pomona, as well as her role as our next editor-in-chief. I would also like to acknowledge the unwavering support given by the Journal's advisor, Dr. Elli Menounou, whose indispensable guidance and advice made this publication possible. As a key figure within the research community here at Cal Poly Pomona, Dr. Menounou has played an instrumental role in advising and promoting student-led research. I would lastly like to give special thanks to the chair of our department, Dr. Mario Guererro, who works tirelessly to promote student outcomes, including the overall quality of the education received by students.

It has truly been a pleasure to have played a part in the long-standing academic tradition of intellectual pursuit embodied by this journal. I am nothing short of confident that the journal is in good hands as I the torch to our next editor-in-chief, Amary.

## **Kyle Chao**

*Editor-in-Chief*

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As this year's Junior Editor for the Undergraduate Journal of Political Science at Cal Poly Pomona, I'd like to express my gratitude for the opportunity to participate in the Spring 2024, Journal Volume 8. It has truly been a great experience, working alongside an Editorial Board composed of our department's best and brightest. I believe that the journal best serves its purpose in not only demonstrating brilliantly written academic works, but also allowing for a further expansion of interests and knowledge in our political world.

I would personally like to congratulate my editor-in-chief, Kyle Chao for all of his accomplishments and graduation from Cal Poly Pomona. I sincerely wish you much luck in whichever endeavors you wish to pursue. I would also like to personally thank my faculty advisor, Dr. Elli Menounou, for all your support and guidance not simply while working on the journal, but also through my academic goals. If not for Dr. Menounou's diligence and dedication, this journal would not be the great success it has become over the years. My final thank you is for Dr. Mario Guerrero and everything he does for our department. I am truly grateful for all the help and advice you have given me and for all the hard work you devote.

As I begin my senior year at Cal Poly Pomona, I look forward to what's to come and for those who continue the legacy of this journal, I wish you great luck and success!

Thank you,

**Amary Corona**

*Junior Editor*

# Letter from the Faculty Advisor

At Cal Poly Pomona, our motto is “learn by doing.” In the Department of Political Science, we strive to give our students every possible experience that will help them develop successful careers and create well rounded scholars. We offer over 50 undergraduate courses in six different subfields (American Politics, Comparative Politics, International Relations, Political Theory, Public Administration, and Public Law). In an effort to provide our students with the experience needed to succeed in graduate programs in law, master’s programs, doctoral programs, or the job force, our courses focus on the teacher-scholar model, encouraging our students to engage in scholarly research.

In our Undergraduate Journal of Political Science, we showcase some of the best articles written by our students, exemplifying the various areas of studies offered to students here at CPP. While the articles published in the journal tackle some of the most salient issues in the discipline, we also hope that these articles serve as examples for our continuing students on what successful academic scholarship looks like.

The Undergraduate Journal is a particularly impressive endeavor in that it is student run. As such, we should recognize the editor-in-chief, Kyle Chao, and the junior editor, Amary Corona. Their work producing this issue and overseeing the editorial process was a monumental task; Kyle and Amary did an incredible job, as the final product here suggests. Kyle is now a graduate of CPP and while we are sad to see him leave, we are excited for what is on the horizon, with Amary as our new editor-in-chief. We should also recognize the hard work of the editorial board, composed of political science students who volunteered their time to provide peer review to ensure the strength of this journal.

Finally, I offer a special thanks to my predecessor, Dr. Mario Guerrero, who served as the faculty advisor for the journal at its inception and has supported the journal’s goals as our department chair. Without Dr. Guerrero, this journal would not have existed, and we are grateful for his work in setting our students up with this opportunity. Thank you to Ms. Beatriz Garcia, the department’s administrative coordinator, and the entire faculty of the political science department who inspire our students.

Dr. Elli Menounou  
Faculty Advisor  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Political Science  
Cal Poly Pomona

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*Thank you to this year's editorial board for their help with peer reviewing the journal's articles. The final publication would not have been possible without the time and effort of our reviewers to read and provide feedback on all the articles.*